

PENTHOUSE

THE INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE FOR MEN

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2017

EXCLUSIVE:
BEHIND BARS
WITH BAC GUAI,
CHINATOWN'S
WHITE DEVIL

INTERVIEW:
NARCOS STAR
WAGNER MOURA

THE SUMMER ISSUE

**THE PEOPLE'S
PRESIDENT:
DONALD TRUMP**

**Q&A WITH
COCAINE KING
RICK ROSS**

**FAST MONEY:
INVESTING IN
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FROM THE EDITOR

Can you feel the change in the air? I know I sure as hell can.

What a crazy year, right? If 2016 was a sign of what's to come, then hold on tight, this year is going to be wild.

We like crazy people. They're funny and entertaining and unlike anything else. For better or worse, they're unabashedly themselves, and that is important.

It's important because people need to be allowed to speak their minds. We need to discuss ideas, no matter how challenging, with our friends, colleagues, lovers. Silencing an idea, or a voice does not make it go away. It might disappear for a while, but it will rear its head again, albeit in a far uglier manner.

Take the new U.S. president for example. Whilst everyone is collectively scratching their head, thinking "What the fuck", the rest of us are enjoying the spectacle, at least I am. Sure, he's an asshole. But my opinion isn't going to change the fact, so why not enjoy it?

We've done our best to embrace the weird and wonderful in this issue of *Penthouse*, and to be fair, we've done a pretty great job. We sat down for a chat with the most infamous drug dealer in America, Ricky "Freeway" Ross, who, at the height of his career was moving over 100 kgs a day of cocaine – just enough to keep Sydney's Eastern Suburbs going for a weekend.

But we don't stop there, the feature is hot! Bac Guai, aka Chinatown's White Devil, is a kid from Boston who grew up to become one of the most feared mafia kingpins in Chinatown. And I haven't even mentioned the glambours we managed to wrangle for this month's shoot. Summer vibes all round.

Finally, we've got your guide to building the ultimate "Manwich", which is exactly what it sounds like, and a watch special that will keep you ticking all year round.

Honestly, there is so much good content in this issue that I'm going to stop now, because you just need to start reading it.

Enjoy.

NATHAN HARMOND

Editor



BRUNO MARS ALBUM GIVEAWAY

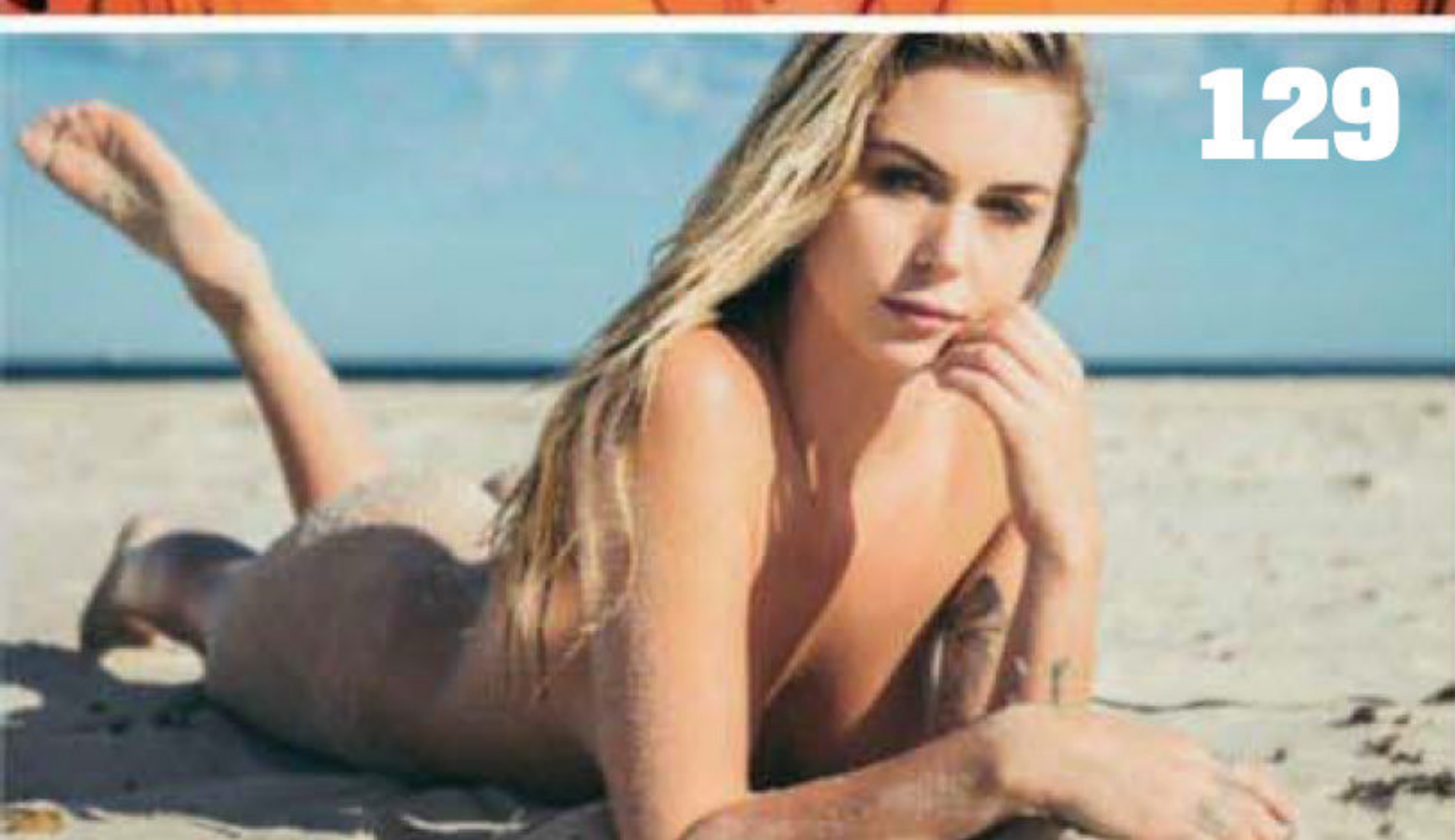
You have \$1 million dollars and 24 hours in Vegas. How would you spend it?

To go in the draw to win the new Bruno Mars album, 24K Magic, email us your answer to the question above:

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Natural
Beauty
91



PENTHOUSE

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Renowned as Sydney's first beach-side cinema, Flickerfest kicks off the Summer cinema season outdoors under the stars at Sydney's iconic Bondi Beach, screening the best short films from Australia and the world in a unique and relaxed environment. After the Sydney Festival Flickerfest tours to 45 + venues around Australia.



NICK CAVE AND THE BAD SEEDS

JANUARY

Nation Wide

Following their #1 ARIA chart debut for new album *Skeleton Tree*, Nick Cave & the Bad Seeds have



announced that they will be touring their biggest and boldest production ever to Australia and New Zealand in January 2017. The latest album received phenomenal reviews worldwide, topped the charts in eight countries, and gained the band their second #1 album in Australia following 2013's *Push The Sky Away* (#1 Feb 2013).

ELECTRIC GARDENS

JAN 28

Centennial Parklands, Sydney

Electric Gardens is back in Sydney this Australia Day weekend. We're bringing an incredible production with the

greatest house music acts on the planet.

There is no denying the formidable Swedish DJ & producer is now one of the most in demand in the world. For over ten years his name has been synonymous with immaculately produced and unique sounding electronic music.



GREEN VS MUNDINE

FEB 03

Adelaide Oval

There is no greater rivalry in Australian sport than that between Danny Green and Anthony Mundine. On February 3, 2017, "The Man" and "The Machine" will settle the score once and for all at the Adelaide Oval in what is certain to be the most anticipated sporting events of the year. More than 34,500 fans packed into the Sydney Football Stadium in May 2006, to see Mundine claim a unanimous decision over Green in their first bout. Now after ten long years, "The Green Machine"

has an opportunity to avenge that defeat and affirm his legacy as one of Australia's all time greatest fighters.

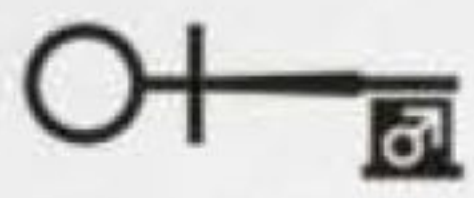
TROPFEST

FEB 11

Parramatta Park, Sydney

It all started with a man, a cafe and one simple idea: to create a platform for talented filmmakers and a new wave of storytelling voices. 25 years on, Tropfest has become the world's largest short film festival and one of Australia's most iconic cultural events. It is Australia's most prestigious short film competition and the largest short film festival in the world.





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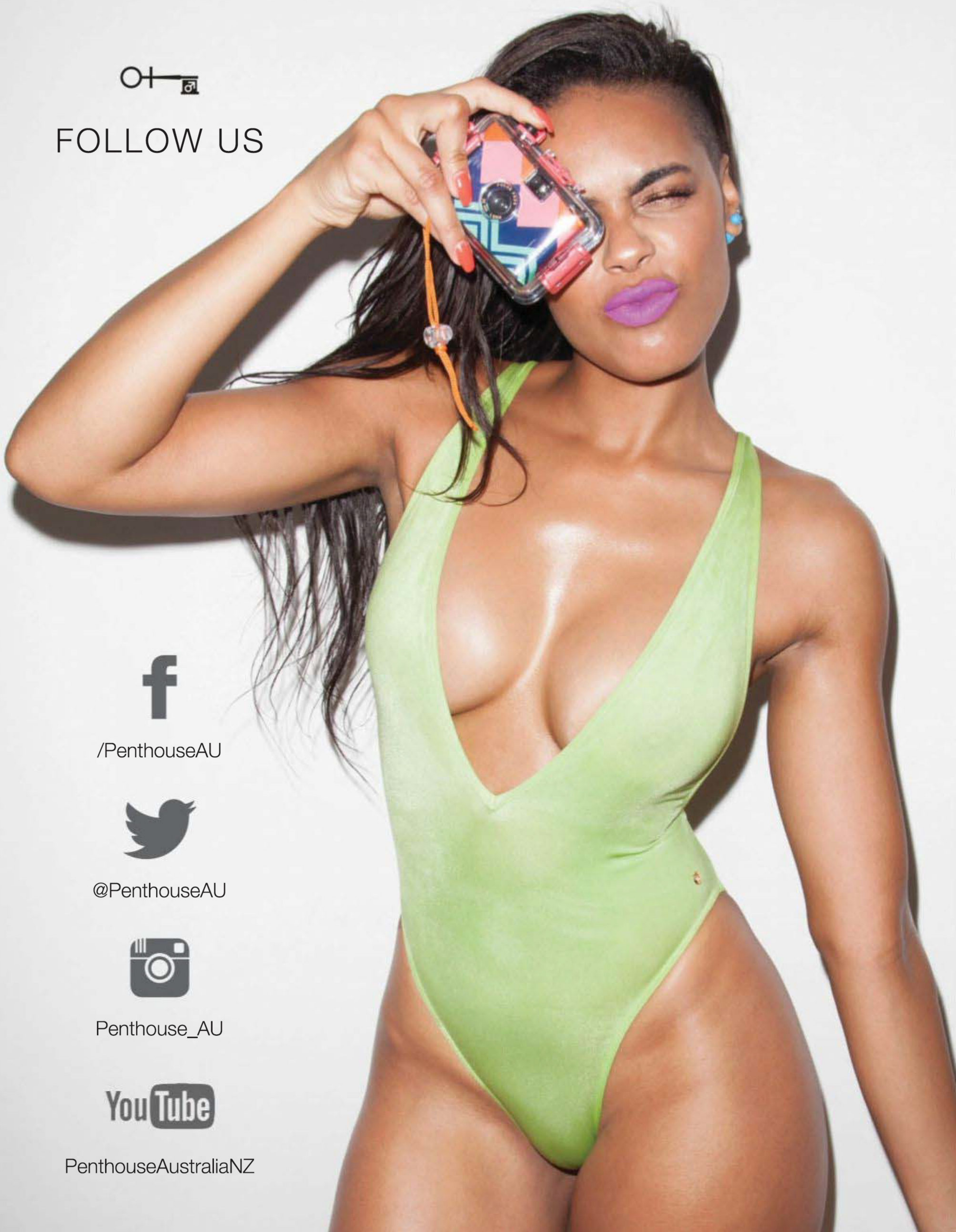
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THE DEBRIEF

STUDENTS TOO SHY TO BUY CONDOMS

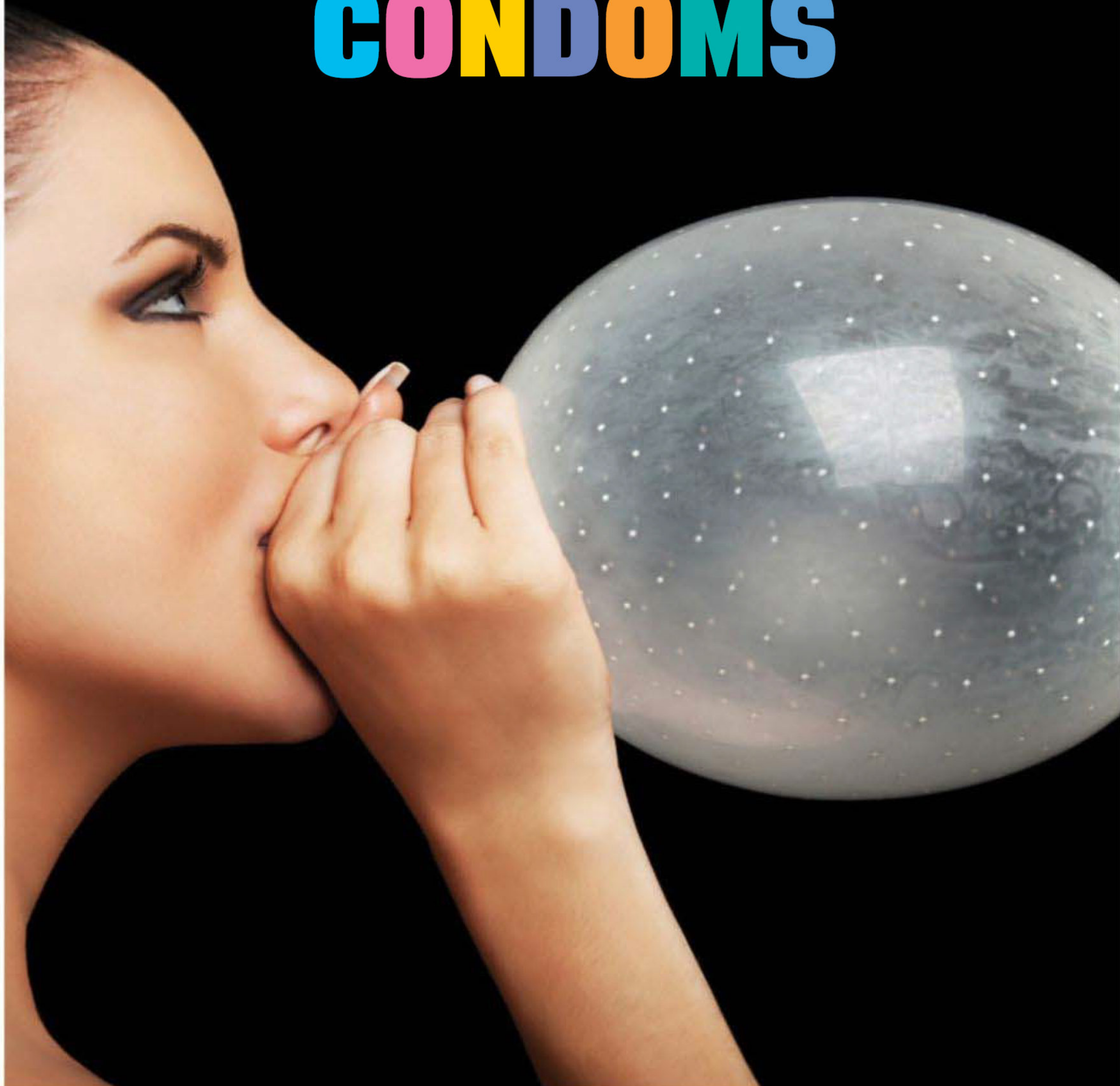


PHOTO: ISTOCK



WHAT WE'VE LEARNED

IT'S JUST AN EXPRESSION!

A YOUNG Vietnamese couple ended up in the hospital after attempting to have sex for the first time using a plastic bag as a condom.

The unnamed students were too shy to buy condoms, and, reportedly, the boy believed that using a plastic bag would be just as effective. Things didn't go as planned, however, and both suffered genital lesions, abrasions, and bleeding.

Nguyen The Luong, deputy director of Hanoi Kidney Hospital where the students were treated, told the local press that the pair are recovering with the help of antibiotics and "disinfectants."

He went on to say that using plastic bags as contraception is a

terrible idea; they provide no protection from STIs or pregnancy and can cause vaginal tearing, since the bags have no elasticity or lubrication.

A recent study by the Medical University of Hanoi and Hanoi Medical College found that of the nearly 3,000 students surveyed, only 16 percent claimed to have had sex, and a third of them didn't use condoms their first time.

The study also found approximately 25 percent of Vietnamese students are too embarrassed to buy protection. Hopefully this incident, which has garnered worldwide attention, will convince at least some of them to get the fuck over it.

EXCUSE ME, OFFICERS, HAVE YOU SEEN MY COCAINE?

THIS past September, a Seattle man was taken into custody after asking local police if they had come across his missing briefcase full of cocaine.

According to Seattle police, Officer Doug Jorgenson was directing traffic when a man approached him and handed over a briefcase. The man said he'd been out walking his dog when another man stopped to pet the dog. When he walked away, he left his briefcase behind.

Hoping to discover the owner, Jorgenson opened the case and discovered 154 grams of cocaine,

a cellphone, a scale, 50 diazepam pills, some marijuana, and the ID of the 19-year-old briefcase owner.

Not long after the case was turned in, a man approached a group of police officers outside a Seattle Seahawks game and asked if they'd come across it.

Officers said the man told them, "It contained some important paperwork and he really needed it back."

Police later arrested the man for possession of narcotics with intent to sell.



ISTOCK / MARK WRAGG / JOE CICAK



RACK TO THE FUTURE

FOR centuries, people have tried various ways of predicting the future — through astronomy, “psychics,” and fortune tellers. But one Chinese man claims to have discovered a new method.

The unnamed gentleman believes he can predict a woman’s future by touching her breasts. The short video, which has had hundreds of thousands of views, depicts the elderly man cupping a young woman’s breast inside her dress. Meanwhile, the woman looks on, somewhat bored, as she rests her head on her fist.

Perhaps this would be a good career change for a certain ex-presidential candidate.



BONER COFFEE

COFFEE lovers can say good-bye to Viagra now that a new coffee called “Stiff Bull” offers an erection that can last days.

Billed as a “relationship saver” on its website, Stiff Bull contains all-natural herbs that “grow wild in the jungles of Malaysia and have been used for centuries by the people of Asia and South America to greatly improve sexual health, libido, and overall wellness.”

The company claims drinking Stiff Bull can produce an erection that lasts up to three days, although we’re not sure why this is a selling point.

The FDA has urged people to stay

away from the coffee as it contains a “secret ingredient,” the Viagra-like drug desmethyl carbodenafil. The drug isn’t listed on the coffee’s packaging and can be harmful to men suffering from diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or heart disease.

The FDA wrote in their advisory, “This undeclared ingredient may interact with nitrates found in some prescription drugs such as nitroglycerine and may lower blood pressure to dangerous levels.” The report goes on to warn consumers the coffee could cause a huge drop in blood pressure, leading to dizziness, fainting, blurred vision, and nausea.

SOME PEOPLE REALLY DIG GOD

A MAN in El Salvador has been digging a hole for eighteen years after claiming God told him to do it.

Santiago Sanchez, 69, explained in an interview with Univision journalist Ernesto Rivas that God spoke to him one night and told him to dig a hole. Eighteen years later, Sanchez is still digging, believing what he’s doing “is a spiritual revelation from God.”

The pensioner has devoted his life to the project, waking at 3 A.M. every morning to commence digging, emerging only to dispose of the dirt and rocks he digs up.

The journalist covering the story admitted he found the going tough when venturing through the tunnel, and had trouble breathing by the time he reached the halfway point, forcing him to return to the surface.

This didn’t surprise Sanchez, who said, “Only I am allowed to go to the end because I am God’s tunnel digger. Nobody else is allowed to go there.”



PRIVATE DICK

A woman from Chicago, identified by her initials, N.P., is suing sex-toy manufacturer Standard Innovation for allegedly spying on her while she used her vibrator.

The sex toy in question, the We-Vibe Rave, is a G-spot stimulator that has smartphone-controlled functionality, enabling people who are not in the same place to exchange messages, participate in video chats, and remotely control the device using the app.

The woman instigating the lawsuit said she used the sex toy a number of times before learning via a Defcon hacking convention talk that Standard Innovation was retaining her personal usage for marketing purposes.

The Canadian company collects data via the app, including when it’s running and what the vibration setting is. It was discovered if users registered their email addresses, the company could also obtain their personal information.

Eve-Lynn Rapp, an attorney with the law firm representing N.P., said, “This is one of the more incredible invasions of privacy we’ve ever dealt with.” She explained how the company uses the information to increase the sale of their products, stating, “Given how personal the information is, what the company was doing is inappropriate.”

Standard Innovation released a statement stressing they take issues of privacy very seriously and have updated their terms and conditions, giving users the option not to have their...er... data tracked.

MAN BITTEN ON PENIS BY SPIDER — AGAIN

SOME are calling a Sydneysider named Jordan “Australia’s unluckiest man” after he claims to have been bitten by a spider on his penis for the second time in a year.

The 21-year-old said he was first bitten by the infamous redback spider in April when using a port-a-loo on a building site.

Speaking with a local radio station, Jordan, who declined to give his last name, said the first incident left him with a red mark on his penis and turned him off using public toilets. The decision lasted just five months till Jordan used a portable toilet while working on another building site.

“There was a little crevice under the bowl,” he explained, “and you couldn’t lift anything to check. It’s the first time I’ve used a port-a-loo since it happened the first time.”

After being bitten a second time, Jordan was taken to St George hospital where staff remembered him from his first visit.

He was unsure if it was another redback that had bitten him, but claimed the second time was much worse: “The spider got a better shot on it this time. It’s redder, a bit more swollen and hurts a bit more.”



SCIENCE PROVES BEER SNOBS ARE JUST SNOBS

THE craft beer craze of the past decade has created millions of beer snobs, many who are more than happy to lecture you on the difference between a Belgian dark ale and a West Coast IPA.

But it seems they might not actually know what the fuck they’re talking about.

A team of German scientists at the Technische Universität Dresden’s Institute of Food Chemistry have proven that it’s impossible to tell the different chemicals that make up the taste of beer.

The scientists were working on breaking down the components of beer and noted the levels of chemicals varied so much within beer styles of a certain sample,

that there’s no way the human palate can distinguish the small nuances of different beers, such as a lager and a stout.

The scientists collected data by looking at a particular group of chemicals known as Maillard Reaction Products. These compounds are known to give beer its taste and colour, and are released during the brewing process when the grains are roasted and converted into liquid malt.

Publishing their results in the Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry, the scientists agreed there are different chemicals that form the taste and colour of a beer, but that these chemicals are so complex the average beer drinker can’t tell the difference.

FALLING IN LOVE

WE’VE all gone to extremes to impress a crush, but nothing like Russian teen Alexander Shadrin.

The love-struck 16-year-old was attempting to impress a girl by climbing over the balcony and hanging by the railing at his apartment building in Novosibirsk, Siberia. Shock of all shocks: Shadrin lost his grip and plunged 230 feet, somehow managing

to land on the roof of the Renault Logan taxi parked below.

Shadrin was reportedly conscious after the fall, suffering a bruised abdomen and lungs, a torn liver and a broken shoulder, but is expected to make a full recovery. The Renault’s roof was crushed and the back window completely smashed.

As a Novosibirsk official stated, “The guy was born under a lucky star.”



ISTOCK / TURNERVISUAL / 4X6

WOULD YOU SWIPE RIGHT ON THIS?



SINCE the introduction of dating apps, the art of meeting people has changed dramatically, to say the least. Of course, one thing that still exists is having to sell yourself to the opposite sex. You must have a profile that exudes confidence and demonstrates how good-looking and financially successful you are, while showing all the personality traits women like, such as sensitivity, humour, and honesty.

This is hard to do with just a handful of photos and a 500-word bio, but we have some inside knowledge that should help you rack up the likes.

Whitney Wolfe, CEO and founder of Bumble — a dating app where women make the first move — gave *Business Insider* tips on what not to include on your profile.

Wolfe says mirror selfies should be discarded: “Just no. They don’t come over well. No one likes them.” She goes on to say group shots are bad as there’s a chance she might like one your friends better, and photos of you posing with other women create more questions than answers.

And lastly, do not post pics of yourself with tigers, or as Wolfe puts it, “enough of the endangered species profile photos.”

Happy swiping!



5,000 MILES, TEN DAYS, AND NO CLUE

FORTY-ONE-YEAR-OLD Dutchman Alexander Pieter Cirk spent ten days at a waiting room to meet a woman he’d met on a dating app. When she failed to show, Cirk, having flown over 5,000 miles to see her, made the decision to sit tight and wait. And wait.

Over the ensuing days, pictures of Cirk began circulating on social media, until authorities came to the frail Cirk’s aid.

Cirk was taken to the hospital as a precaution and remained there for three nights. Both Chinese and Dutch officials declined to say what he was treated for, but were satisfied enough with his condition to let him travel home.

A local TV show tracked down the woman, who was surprised that Cirk had flown all that way to see her, believing he was only joking when he said he’d purchased a plane ticket and would be visiting her.

She claimed she was undergoing plastic surgery when he arrived, missing his messages, but hoped to continue their online relationship.

BATH PD NEEDS A HAND

THE English city of Bath, famous for its historic Roman baths and eighteenth-century Georgian architecture, has become known for something else: severed feet.

Police are investigating after a human foot was found in the garden of one resident’s house. This is the third foot found in Bath in the past year.

After a four-month investigation, the previously discovered feet in Weston Park were believed to be anatomical teaching aides.

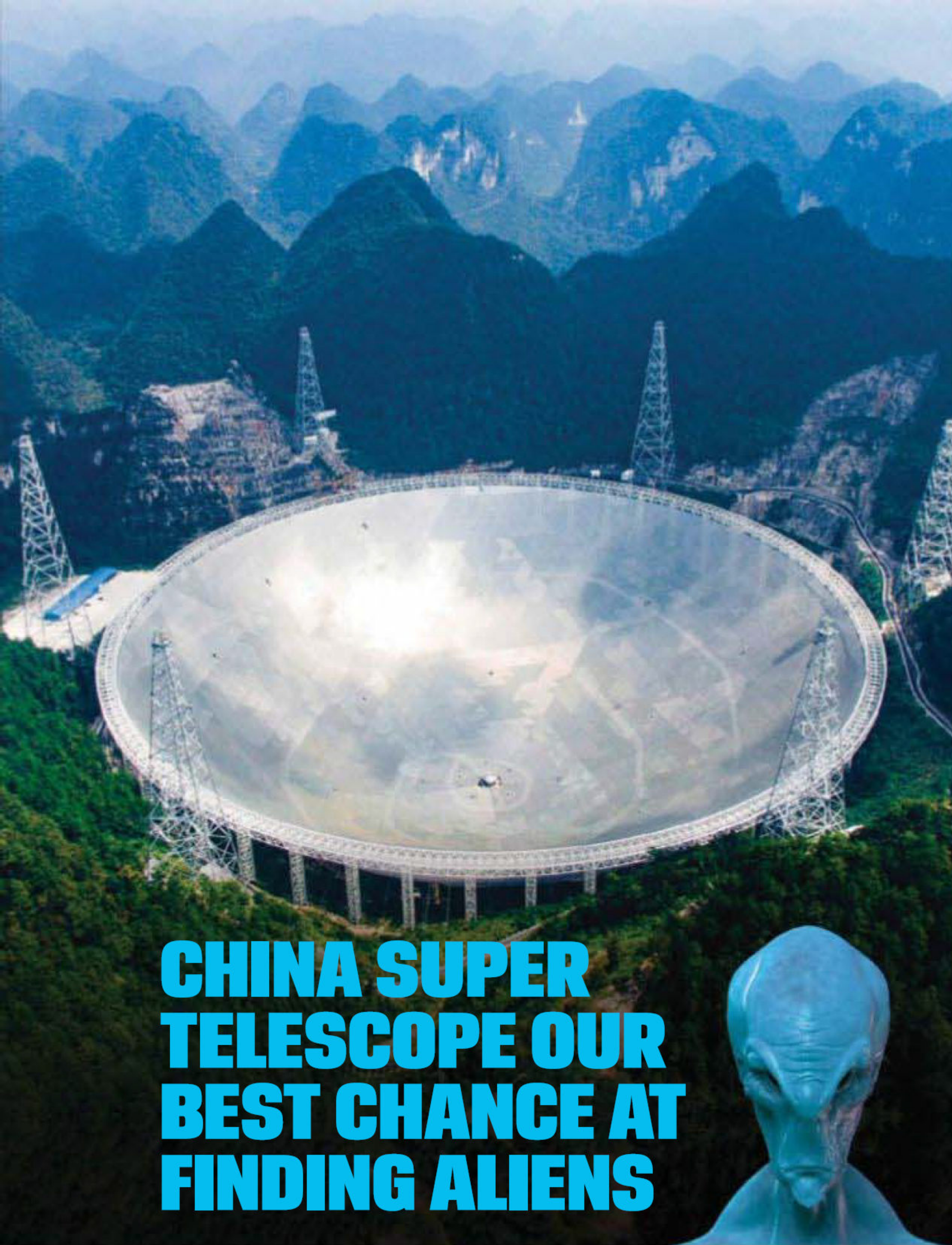
All three feet were discovered near the Royal United Hospital, which is licensed to undertake post-mortem examinations, although the hospital denies any connection.

The latest find, however, still has police puzzled over how the foot ended up in a local’s front yard.



They’re using specially trained cadaver dogs to search nearby areas for other body parts. However, they don’t believe the feet are linked to any criminal activity.

“We are confident no crime has been committed and strongly believe the feet have come from an old private collection,” said Temporary Detective Inspector Paul Catton.



CHINA SUPER TELESCOPE OUR BEST CHANCE AT FINDING ALIENS

WHILE Stephen Hawking continues to warn the world against trying to find alien life, the Chinese have plunged head first into the search for extraterrestrial life by turning on FAST, the world's largest radio telescope.

Located in China's Guizhou province, the Chinese have spent the past six years constructing the ginormous Five-hundred-metre Aperture Spherical Telescope known by the acronym, FAST.

Not only is FAST the largest telescope of its kind, measuring 1,640 feet in diameter, but also the most sensitive, with the ability to receive more distant radio signals than any other telescope ever constructed.

The \$180 million project contains over 4,500 individual panels and is roughly the size of 30 soccer pitches. The telescope's field of vision is twice

that of Puerto Rico's famed Arecibo Observatory and is 10 times more sensitive when it comes to picking up signals than the Effelsberg 100-meter Radio Telescope in Germany.

While exciting, the project hasn't come without some controversy, with over 9,110 Chinese citizens forced to relocate from their homes to make room for the giant scientific construction.

Astronomers are excited about the telescope and how the new technology will aid in the search for alien life, and in the process, hopefully reveal more secrets of the universe.

Chinese astronomer Shi Zhicheng said in an interview with the South China Morning Post, "If intelligent aliens exist, the messages that they produced or left behind, if they are being transmitted through space, can be detected and received by FAST."

REAL LIFE BENJAMIN BUTTON IN BANGLADESH

IN a bizarre case of life imitating art, a newborn baby in Bangladesh has an uncanny resemblance to Brad Pitt's character from David Fincher's *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*.

The boy's appearance is very similar to that of Pitt's in the movie adaptation of F. Scott Fitzgerald's classic novel that tells the tale of a baby born as an old man who ages in reverse.

In the story, the mystery of Ben's ageing is unknown. In the real world, however, the reason for the baby's condition is a rare genetic disease known as progeria that causes sufferers to manifest aspects of ageing from a very early age.

Born in Bhulbaria, in Bangladesh's Magura district, the child is somewhat of a local celebrity, with many of the townsfolk flocking to see this anomaly. His parents, however, don't appear too fussed.

Speaking with the local media, they have declared how happy they are to have a child and are not concerned with his looks.

"I am not unhappy, nor do I feel any sorrow that my son is different," the boy's father Biswajit said. "Our first child, Aparna, has taken after her mother. But my boy looks like me, and I am happy."

The child's uncle, Arabindu Mondal was also happy for the birth, saying, "The baby looks old because his father also looks more than his age. I just hope that the baby will lead a long and healthy life."

Unfortunately, those born with progeria, also known as Hutchinson-Gilford Progeria syndrome rarely survive past their teens, with most succumbing to problems related to the disease.



BUSTY MODEL KILLS SNAKE WITH HER BOOBS

FAKE boobs are great. They look fantastic and are a real self-esteem booster, but as one poor snake found out, they can also be deadly.

The reptile in question died from silicon poisoning after sinking its fangs into the breast of Israeli model Orit Fox.

A video of the incident shows Fox, scantily clad and heavily made up, holding the snake as a prop in a shoot. The snake wraps itself around Fox's leg and is behaving itself before the model attempts to lick it, presumably because she thinks men find women licking snakes sexy.

Whatever her reasons, this is where things take a turn for the worse. The snake doesn't take too kindly to being licked and reacts violently, latching onto the model's right breast with its fangs. Fox begins screaming and tries to get the snake to release its grip, but the reptile won't let go.

After a few more seconds the snake finally lets go of Fox's breast as a man approaches to help.

The model appears shaken up by the incident and reportedly needed a tetanus shot but was otherwise unharmed. The same can't be said for the poor snake, which later passed away from silicon poisoning thanks to Fox's fake knockers.

If there're any lessons to be learned here, it's don't bite into fake boobs, and if you are handling a snake, don't try and lick it.

STUDENT AUCTIONING OFF VIRGINITY TO PAY TUITION

A RUSSIAN student is selling her virginity online to help fund her university tuition.

20-year-old Ariana wants to study medicine abroad but cannot afford the tuition. Having tried to raise the money alternative ways, she has settled on selling her virginity as the best option.

"Many students have multiple problems to deal with during their studies," Ariana said. "I want to move to another country for my studies in medicine. The university will be very expensive; the rent will also be high. I want to get the financial burden out of the

way, so I can focus on my medical studies."

Ariana is advertising herself on escort site, Cinderella Escorts, with a description that reads, "Ariana is 100% Virgin. She can't find love before and want to get money for her studies. Buyer can check her virginity from a doctor (sic)."

The initial bid for her virginity starts at 130,500 pounds, with Ariana admitting that her parents are unaware of how she was raising the money, adding she would have no problems telling them either.

STRANGERS HAVING SEX ON COUCH



A TENNESSEE woman got the shock of her life when she discovered two people having sex in her living room.

Returning home from a few days away, Jamie Barnes found her house looted, but even worse; she caught a man and a woman bumping uglies on her couch.

Talking with WREG TV, Barnes said, "It's horrible in there. It's absolutely horrible in there. It's like they just had a big old nasty party. Walk in, and they're having sex on my couch. I pick up my broom; I wanted to hit the man so bad."

Barnes chased the man out of the house, who kept repeating the phrase, "I don't know nothing," while the woman tried to put on one of Barnes' dresses.

"She tried to grab one of my dresses and put it on, and I snatched it from her – 'What are you trying to do?'" Barnes said.

The local police department revealed that thieves took jewellery, appliances, shoes and clothing from Barnes' property, with the estimated value of the items around \$2,000.

The woman found at the scene was charged with aggravated burglary and is being held on \$30,000 bond while the male suspect is still at large.

Barnes has created a GoFundMe account in hopes of raising enough money to replace her stolen items.

CRUSH

SCARLETT JOHANSSON

SCARLETT Johansson's latest role as Major Motoko Kusanagi, a cyborg-human special-ops officer in the upcoming live-action remake of the Japanese manga series *Ghost in the Shell*, has us all a little excited. We caught the trailer — and a look at the actress in a skintight ninja suit and a jet-black bob — during the season-two finale of *Mr. Robot*, and, all criticism of “whitewashing” notwithstanding, the film looks pretty fucking cool.

Yeah, yeah, so she's been named “Sexiest Woman Alive” by *Esquire* — twice. She's also Hollywood's top-grossing actress of all time. But what we love most about the lovely Johansson is her ability to shift so effortlessly between superhero badass (most recently in *Avengers: Age of Ultron*), girl-next-door smarty-pants (in our personal favourite, Sofia Coppola's 2003 film, *Lost in Translation*), and gum-snapping Jersey girl, like in Joseph Gordon-Levitt's 2013 directorial debut, *Don Jon*.

And then there's *that voice*, which was on full display in Spike Jonze's 2013 film, *Her*, in which Johansson played an advanced operating system named Samantha, whose breathy, crackling cadences captivate lonely writer Theodore Twombly (Joaquin Phoenix). Did you know the actress has two studio albums under her belt as well? And, again, *that voice* can be heard (along with the likes of Matthew McConaughey, Reese Witherspoon, and Seth McFarlane) in the upcoming animated musical *Sing*, in which she plays a punk-rock-singing porcupine named Ash.

Of course Johansson has a number of other projects in the works, including the bachelorette-party comedy *Rock That Body*, and reprising her role as Black Widow in the upcoming *Avengers: Infinity War*, due for release in 2018.

With a workload like that, maybe the 32-year-old mother (of two-year-old daughter Rose, with journalist husband Romain Dauriac) really is a cyborg. Or maybe she's just some sort of genetic freak with the talent, looks, brains, and work ethic that really should put us all to shame. **1**





GET THE PICTURE

IT'S easy to forget in the long winter months that there's a whole world of summer waiting for you at the end of the seasonal tunnel. During summer we crave cooler winds and fresh climates. But during winter, nothing beats imagining a midday dip to cool off from a typical L.A. Summer's day. Gazing around the surroundings you see a beach dotted with people soaking in the sun rays. In the far distance the Californian coastline appears as a silhouette behind the hazy smog with the never ending landscape of apartments & homes along the beach front. ❶

Credit: Charlie Hardy / charliehardy.com.au



EWAN MCGREGOR

THERE are few Hollywood leading men who command the same level of respect as Ewan McGregor. He may have played a pretty convincing junkie in his breakthrough role as Mark Renton in Danny Boyle's 1996 film, *Trainspotting*, but he's never been the type of mainstream actor you'd find splashed across the front page of tabloids. And although he's got the clean-cut image and winning smile your mom could fall for, he's also a motorcycle-loving, down-to-earth kind of guy you could grab a beer with. In 2015, McGregor embarked upon his directorial debut, adapting Phillip Roth's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel *American Pastoral* for the big screen. The sort of man who is apt to throw himself into a project full-force, McGregor took charge of the film after losing two directors in quick succession. Capturing the crackling prose of Roth's classic novel is no easy feat, but Roth himself has already given the film his nod of approval.

According to McGregor, journalists primarily ask him two questions during interviews: 1) How frequently he gets naked on-screen, and 2) Why he doesn't drink anymore. And it's true: McGregor has done more nude scenes than some porn actors and definitely holds the record among mainstream players. He's dedicated to bearing it all in the name of gritty realism and has shared plenty of on-screen steam with a litany of actresses, from Michelle Williams to Eva Green.

As far as booze goes, McGregor is Scottish, after all, but he eventually stopped drinking after a few too many hazy nights on the town. In classic nice-guy fashion, the worst thing he ever really did (in the public eye, anyway) was trash-talk Hugh Grant's acting abilities and say that David Letterman is "rather arrogant and uninteresting." And to be fair — neither of those things is particularly controversial.

Overseas, McGregor is best known for his role in *Trainspotting* (also worth a look is his big-screen debut in Boyle's first film, the riotous *Shallow Grave*). These days, however, many know him as Obi-Wan Kenobi, the young Jedi Knight in the *Star Wars* prequels. And yes, we know the prequels suck, but McGregor still delivered a standout performance throughout the trilogy. That's part of his appeal. He brings his unassuming charm to all his roles, the kind of talent that allows him to switch from junkie to priest to Jedi Knight.

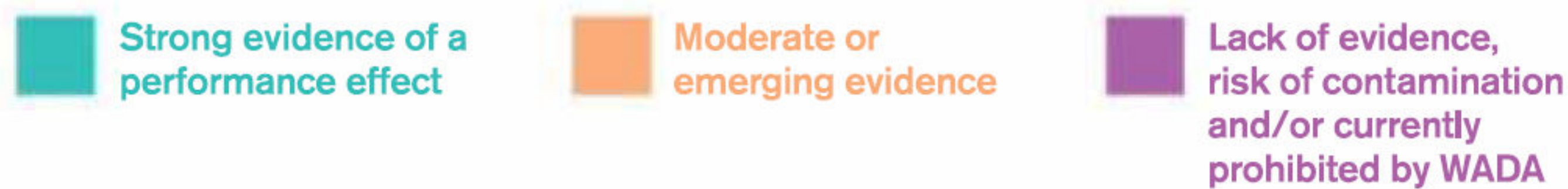
McGregor's next project will, again, be alongside director Boyle, reprising his role as Mark Renton in *T2: Trainspotting*, the much-awaited sequel. The story is set nine years after Renton vows to live a clean life and features the full original cast of Dunedin drop-outs. The release date is in February, and, as huge fans of the original, there's no doubt we'll be checking it out. **1**



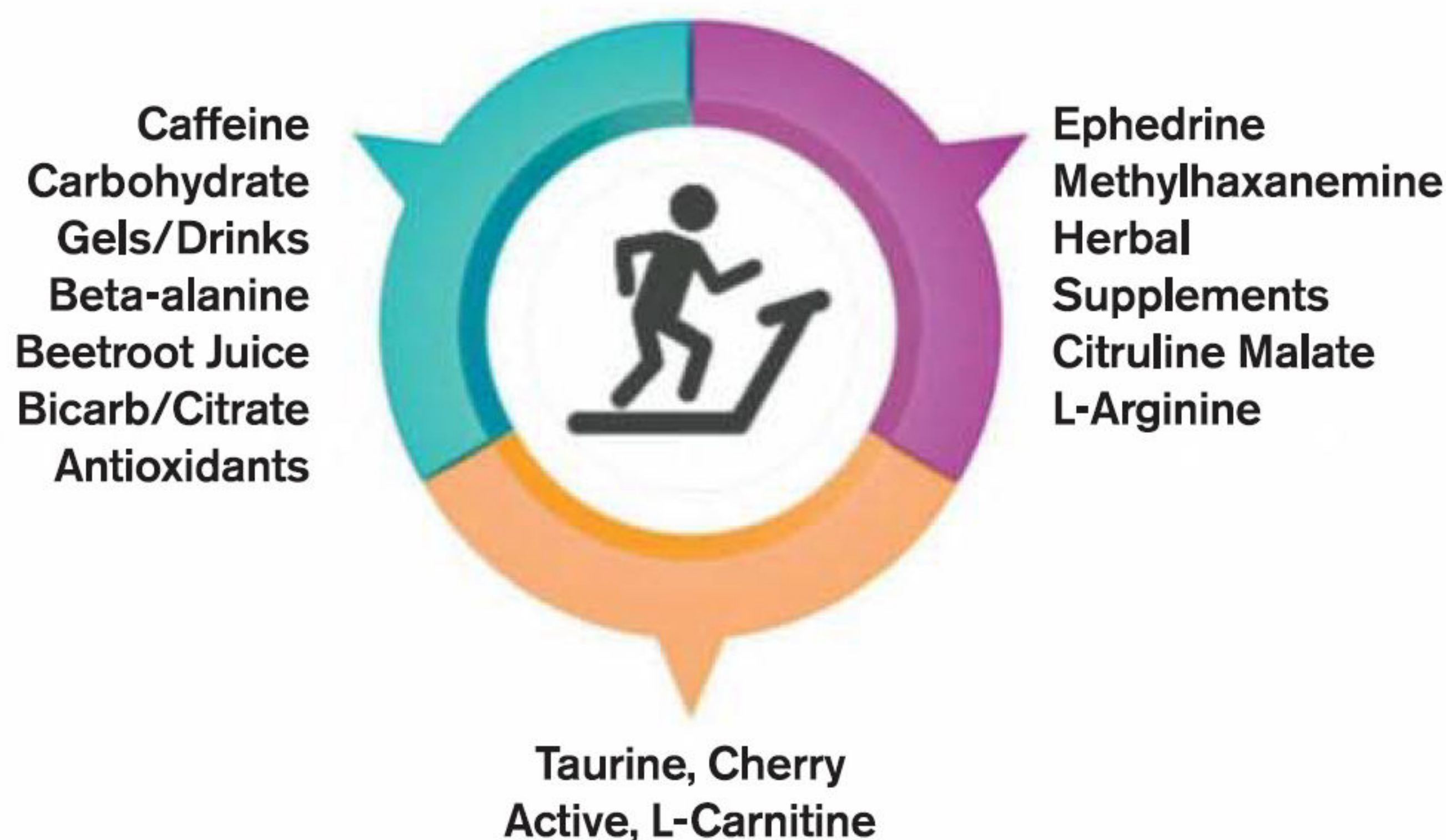
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SUPPLEMENTS: WHAT WORKS

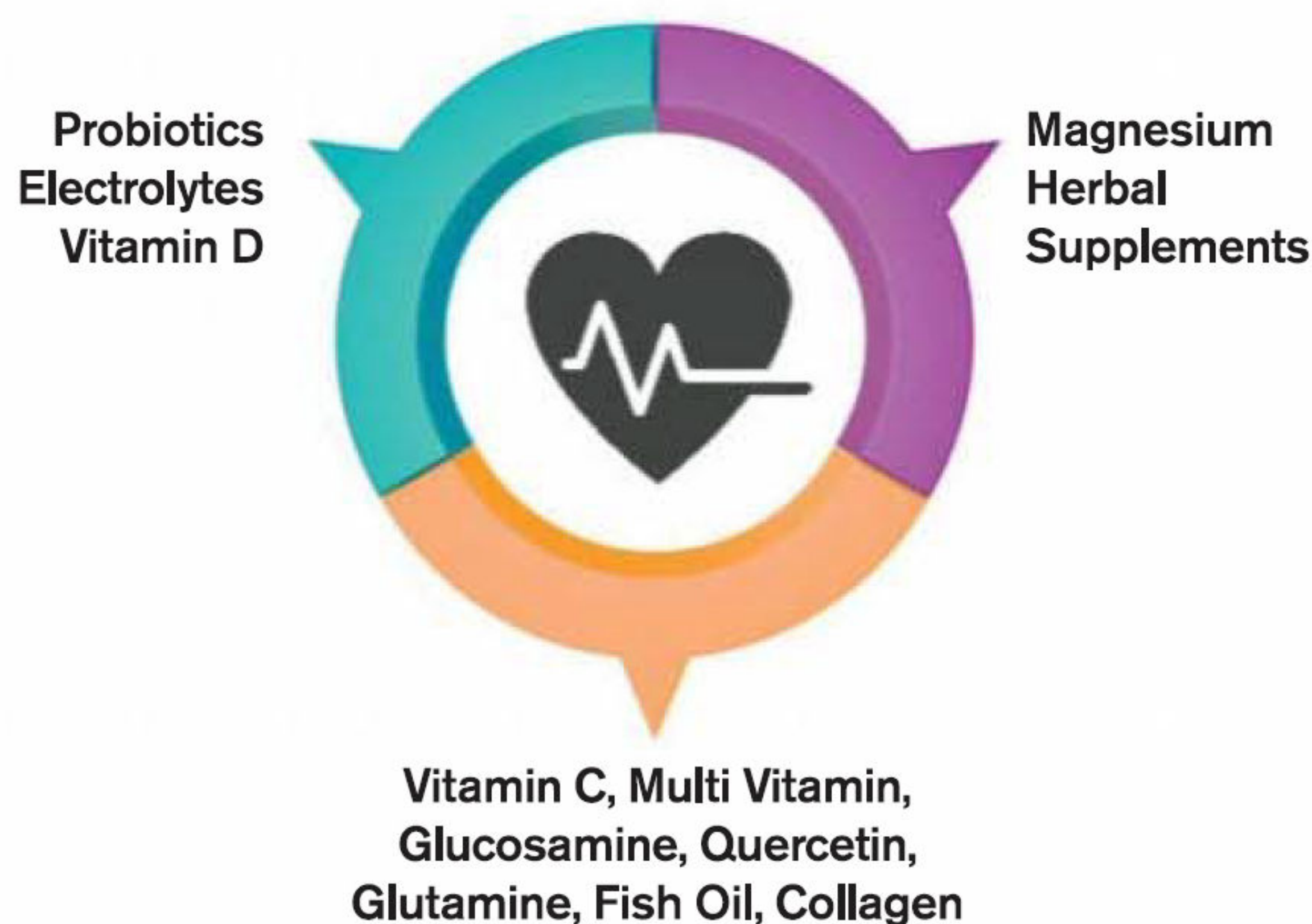
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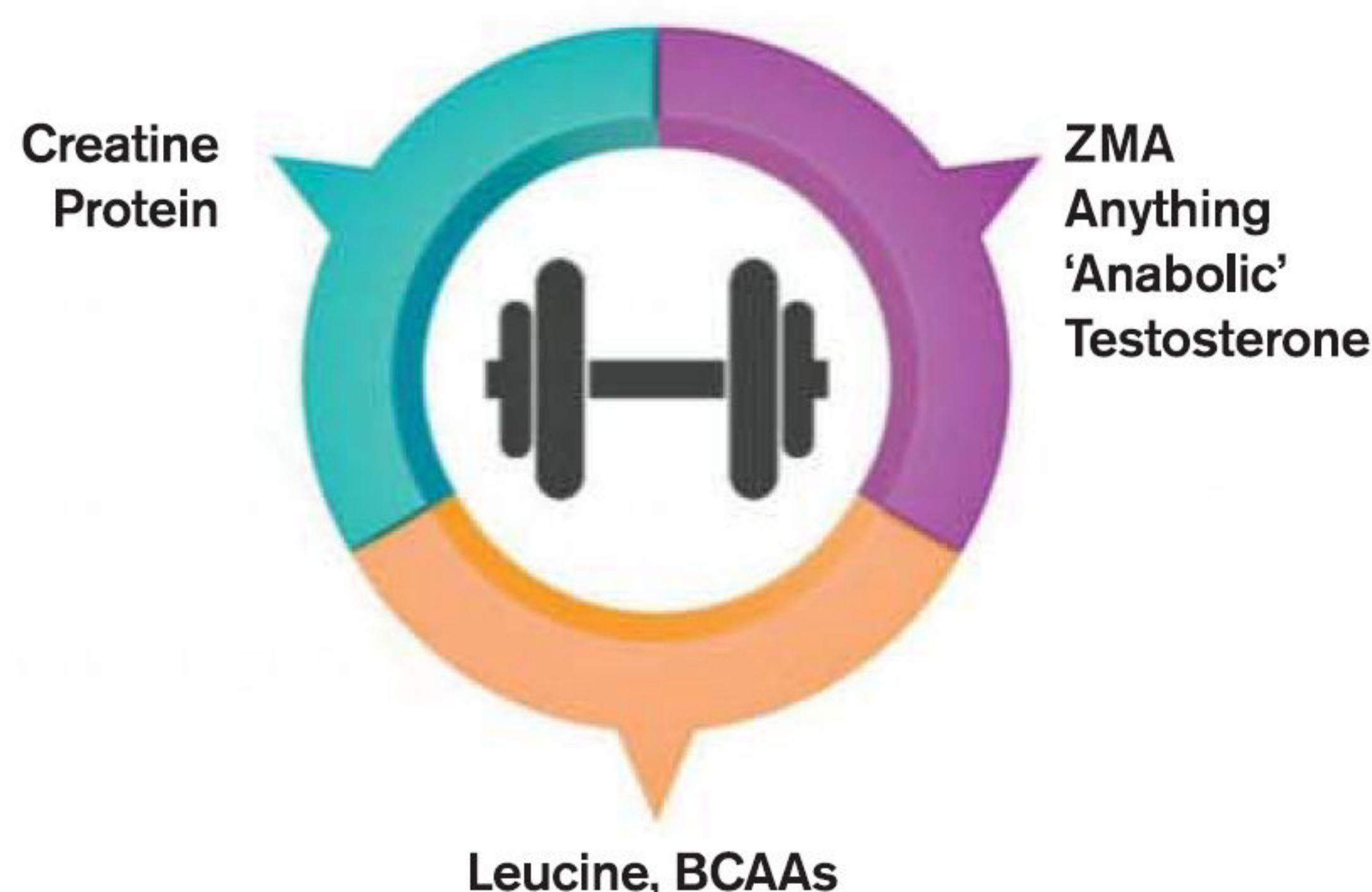
ENDURANCE



HEALTH



STRENGTH/SIZE



NETFLIX BINGE



BOJACK HORSEMAN

Ridiculous in all aspects, BoJack Horseman is good for some hearty laughs at the expense of the commonplace celebrity lifestyle. Let's just say it's a show about horsing around (pun intended).



HOUSE OF CARDS

Kevin Spacey's highly bingeable political series is the grandfather of Netflix original series, and now with four seasons under its belt, it's an absolute edge of seat, binge inducing thriller

PODCASTS

FINAL GAMES

Taking its cue from Desert Island Discs, Final Games puts games industry veterans in a similarly uninhabited but somehow electrically-powered place, and asks them to explain which eight games they'd choose to take with them.

HOWSTUFFWORKS

Stuff You Should Know is a podcast that deals with the fascinating minutia of random topics that will help you start and maintain a conversation wherever you are.

THE RICKY GERVAIS PODCAST

Ricky Gervais doesn't regularly release new episodes of his podcast (he can go four months without a release), but when he does they're always hilarious.







CULTURE

JULIA LASKOWSKI



JULIA Laskowski is a multidisciplinary designer, animator and illustrator. Her art is colorful, quirky and fun and we can't stop looking at it. We caught up with Julia for a quick round of Q&A.

How would you describe your work?

Bright, fun and always striving to emulate the sunny nature of the Don, Ken Done.

When did you discover you were creative?

Looking back at my school books, my margins were full of doodles. I used to draw Disney characters on request, and discovered I had a knack for copying parent's signatures: both things increased my popularity two-fold.

What mediums do you use and do you have a favourite?

Ink and brush. I love the flow and freedom, and the permanent nature. There's no eraser for ink, no backspace – it's there for good.

What's your "go to" party trick?

Hopefully soon to be back-room tattoos. Over the past year I've been practicing tattooing on ham hocks and my boyfriend's leg.

What is the first thing you notice when you go to a person's house for the first time?

If they have indoor plants. And if so, how they keep them alive.

If aliens came to Earth, and you were the first person they encountered, what would you do to ensure the safety of humanity?

Walk the other way.

What is the best piece of advice you ever received?

"Don't over think it." It's led to broken bones, scars, head injuries, but it was a part of a breakthrough moment for my illustration – a dropping of all inhibitions.

INFO

Web julialaskowski.com

Instagram [@naturalbornkriller](https://www.instagram.com/naturalbornkriller)



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NERD ME UP

ONCE upon a time, being a nerd was *not* cool. But that time is no more, gone the way of Fortran (you'd know what we were talking about if you were an actual nerd). So, nerds (you know who you are), this one's for you: We've scoured the globe to find the best gadgets to add to your arsenal.

1 / DIGITAL MICROSCOPE CAMERA

If you're like us, you never got the chance to use the microscope at school because they didn't have them in the "special class"? Well, now you can make up for lost time. The camera provides 400x magnification, just enough to fill the void you feel.

www.veho-us.com \$99.95

2 / POWERUP 3.0 SMARTPHONE-CONTROLLED PAPER PLANES

It doesn't matter that you sucked at making paper airplanes in school. Now just about anyone can simply fold a plane, slide on the module and laugh in the face of their adversaries as they fly a new, iPhone-controlled, pointy paper projectile... with no risk of injuring your wrist that you need for other more important activities.

www.poweruptoys.com \$50.00

13 / LASER KEYBOARD

Do you like typing? It doesn't really matter; you do it on a daily basis regardless. Tap your way (kind of) into the future with this sci-fi, QWERTY keyboard. The best thing about it? Its a freakin' laser.

www.red5.co.uk \$90.00

4 / PULP FICTION ACTION FIGURES

The world would be a better place if we were all as weird as Tarantino and as cool as Samuel L. Jackson. But we're not, and it isn't. Not to worry, we can still buy these *Pulp Fiction* action figures and be cool like three little Fonzie's.

www.beelinecreative.com \$49.99

5 / STAR WARS C3PO SPEAKER

Level up your desk Tatooine-style with this epic *Star Wars* collectible Bluetooth speaker. Standing at nearly a foot tall, this thing will not get you laid, but fuck it, that was never going to happen anyway. "Don't blame me. I'm an interpreter. I'm not supposed to know a power socket from a computer terminal."

www.acworldwide.cool/ \$200.00

6 / STAR WARS BB-8 DROID

Growing up to realize The Force isn't real and Santa doesn't exist is no fun, but don't let that stop you from pretending! Grab this bundle, become a droid-controlling master, and awaken the Jedi Knight within. (Santa is still not real, however).

www.sphero.com \$150.00



7 / HOT TOYS IRON MAN MARK XLIII 1/4TH SCALE COLLECTIBLE FIGURE

This is Tony Stark's Mark XLIII suit – the same as he donned in *Avengers: Age of Ultron*, which features a brand new head sculpt along with hand-painted armor and interchangeable forearm rocket launchers. It's a special toy...and an even more special woman who will appreciate you for it, my friend. Keep her.

www.hottoys.com.hk \$500.00

8 / FLICKERZ WHITE SINGLE PACK

The Flickerz crosses into that ethereal "nerd bro" territory where soaping and Razr scooters exist. A place where no one admits to indulging in geeky whims, but secretly thinks they're awesome because they do. Join your nerd bros in Silicon Beach for a wicked flick with the world's first flickable mini-flying disc.

www.jungotoys.com \$4.99

9 / HUBSAN X4 FPV DRONE

Every nerd needs a drone. And every drone needs a nerd. (Sing it, Beyoncé). This thing will follow you like a dog of the air, has "first person view" (for spy missions), and a "return to home" GPS function so it won't get stuck anyplace your girlfriend's dad can find it.

www.hubsanus.com \$260.00

10 / LEGO FERRARI F40

If you've ever asked yourself, *Should I buy LEGO?*, the answer is yes, always yes! They are the building blocks of life. That and DNA (which, if you look closely, is also LEGO). Now is your chance to buy your first Ferrari and get up close to one of the world's iconic supercars. 📌

www.shop.lego.com \$99.99

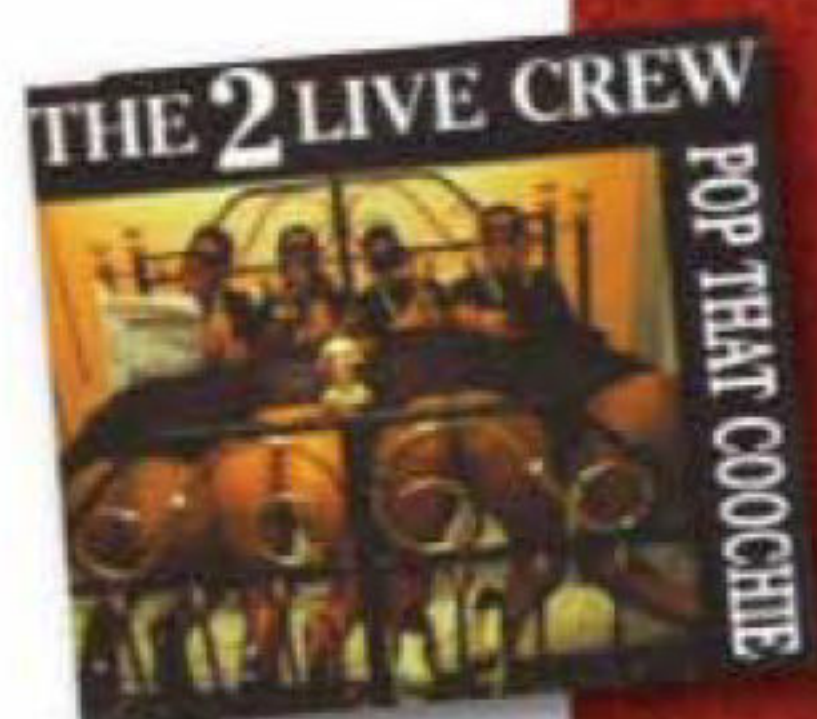
MUSIC

IT'S GETTING HOT IN HERE

EVER since Duran Duran's 1981 hit "Girls On Film" was heavily edited before being allowed on MTV, artists have done all they can to push the boundaries of sex and music. While audiences have since become desensitised to much of what they see on their TV screens, it's still fun to see how we got to where we are now. These are some of our favourite NSFW music-video milestones.

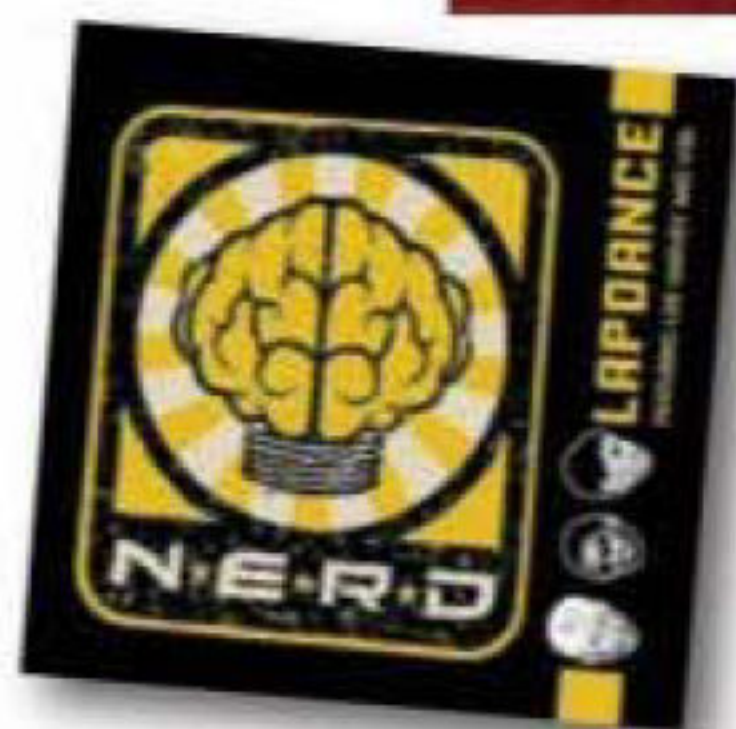
2 LIVE CREW, "POP THAT COOCHIE" (1991)

It might seem tame by today's standards, but in 1991, "Pop That Coochie" caused outrage. The video showed women shaking their booties to the delight of 2LC, intercut with footage of nerdy record execs watching in disgust. It was heavily edited, and 2LC was forced to change the word "pussy" to "coochie." As tame as it now seems, this song paved the way for what's considered commonplace today.



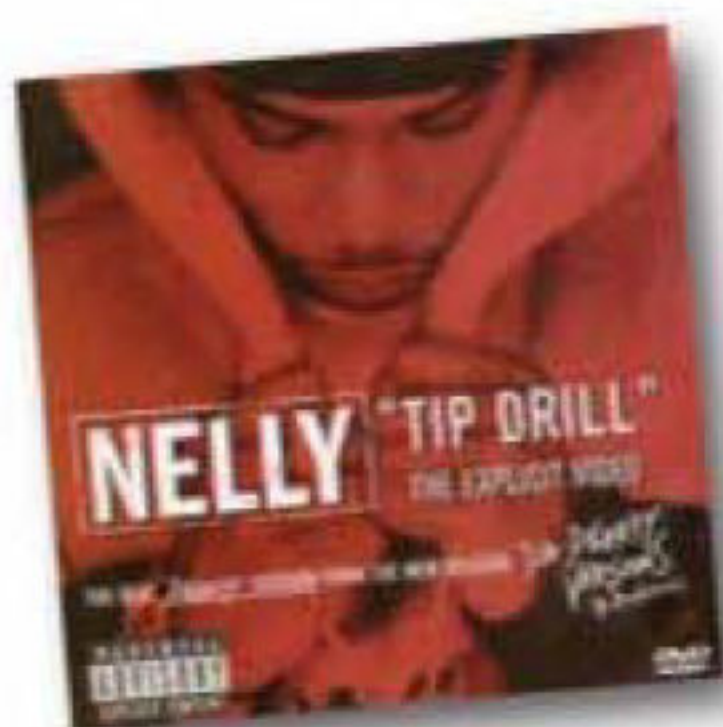
N.E.R.D., "LAPDANCE" (2001)

N.E.R.D.'s first single used sex as an analogy for crooked politicians. Focusing on frontman Pharrell Williams' lounging around with half-naked women in a strip club ("I dare a motherfucker to come in my face"), this one was heavily edited for TV. The original video is quite steamy, with Pharrell's porn star mustache adding another level of dirtiness to the mix.



NELLY, "TIP DRILL" (2003)

At the height of his fame, Nelly delivered a misogynistic sex fantasy that has yet to be topped. Seven glorious minutes of gratuitous boob and arse shots, with Nelly and his crew doing what they do in his



PLACEBO, "PROTÉGE-MOI" (2003)

The French version of Placebo's "Protect Me From What I Want" was released as a single to little fanfare, although the video has become the stuff of legend. Directed by the controversial Gasper Noé, it was deemed too sexually explicit for its



Placebo's Protege-moi

mansion while surrounded by women in tiny bikinis and thongs, shaking their asses. It's remembered fondly for the scene where Nelly swipes his credit card down a woman's ass crack. Without this, Nicki Minaj's "Anaconda" and Jennifer Lopez's "Booty" would never have gotten the green light.

nudity and uncensored depictions of oral sex. The clip has since made its way online, so you can see for yourselves why it was never officially released.

RAMMSTEIN, "PUSSY" (2009)

German rock band Rammstein caused a shit storm with the video to their first German No. 1 single, "Pussy." The song about the sex trade contained lyrics like, "You've got a pussy, I have a dick-ah," featured the band (er, body doubles) engaging in full-blown sex, and ended with each band member ejaculating on their female partner. This one didn't get regular airing on MTV. **1**



FILM

THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY

2 O16 was a fairly average year for blockbuster films. While comic-book and animated movies continued to reign supreme, Hollywood's insistence on reusing old ideas came back to haunt them, with the *Ben-Hur* remake and *Ghostbusters* "reboot" among a handful that bombed at the box office. This isn't a new phenomenon, as films more often than not fail to live up to their hype. As delicious proof, here's a look at some of Hollywood's biggest flops.

> *THE 13TH WARRIOR* (1999)

Estimated budget: \$160 million

Estimated loss: \$137 million

Based on Michael Crichton's novel *Eaters of the Dead* and starring Antonio Banderas, *The 13th Warrior* is statistically the worst financially performing film of all time. Loosely based on the legend of Beowulf, this flick was the most expensive production at the time of its release. Although a moderate success, grossing over \$60 million, *The 13th Warrior* needed to make three times that amount to break even. Which it obviously didn't.

Critic's review: "The film is fascinating to watch, but I can hardly say what it's about, other than people killing each other." — Jeff Millar, *Houston Chronicle*

> *CUTTHROAT ISLAND* (1995)

Estimated budget: \$98 million

Estimated loss: \$147 million

Before *Pirates of the Caribbean* made seafaring films box-office gold, director Renny Harlin nearly destroyed the genre with *Cutthroat Island*. The production was besieged with problems from the get-go: Michelle Pfeiffer pulled out and was replaced by Harlin's then-wife, Geena Davis, alongside Michael Douglas. Douglas soon quit after constant script changes and was replaced by poor sap Matthew Modine. It only got worse during shooting, with a cameraman falling from a crane and breaking his leg, staff walking off set, and a tank used for ocean scenes filling with raw



Hudson Hawk

THE PLOT IS RIDICULOUS, THE SCRIPT HUMOURLESS, THE ACTING WOEFUL, AND THE CHEMISTRY BETWEEN WILLIS AND ANDIE MCDOWELL NONEXISTENT

sewage following a pipe burst. The film lasted less than a month in theaters, and stunted the careers of Davis, Modine, and Harlin for over a decade while sending studio Carolco into bankruptcy.

Critic's review: "It takes a two-hour act of will to keep facing the screen during this moribund movie." — Desson Howe, *The Washington Post*

> *HUDSON HAWK* (1991)

Estimated budget: \$65 million

Estimated loss: \$48 million

Bruce Willis made a name for himself playing the everyman action hero in *Die Hard*, but his role in *Hudson Hawk* almost put the kibosh on his career. Willis played Hawk, a recently paroled cat burglar who spends the film travelling the world stealing priceless da Vinci artifacts while being chased by a wealthy couple, the CIA and the Vatican. If it sounds absurd, it is! The plot is ridiculous, the script humourless, the acting woeful, and the

chemistry between leading man Willis and Andie McDowell nonexistent. It took three years for Willis to regain his credibility with *Pulp Fiction*, and *Hudson Hawk* still stands as his worst feature yet. **Critic's review:** "This unspeakable awful can make an audience a little crazy. You want to throw things, yell at the actors, tell them to stop." — Peter Travers, *Rolling Stone*

> *HEAVEN'S GATE* (1980)

Estimated budget: \$44 million

Estimated loss: \$114 million

After the success of 1978's Oscar-winning *The Deer Hunter*, the late director Michael Cimino received full creative control for his Western follow-up, *Heaven's Gate*. The film focused on the battle between wealthy landowners and struggling farmers, with country singer turned actor Kris Kristofferson and Christopher Walken the unlikely leads. Shot entirely on location and going well over budget, the near four-hour epic bombed big time. A shorter cut was eventually re-released but fared even worse. The film put an end to the Western until *Unforgiven* revived the genre in the nineties. Cimino never directed a big-budget epic again, and the loss was the last straw in the death spiral of United Artists.

Critic's review: "It really is a stinker." — Dave Kehr, *Chicago Reader*

*All estimated losses have been adjusted for inflation

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505
GAMES



GAMING

ART ATTACK: THE LAST GUARDIAN

Sony (PS4)

YOU won't fire rocket launchers or carjack anything in *The Last Guardian*, and yet this unconventional adventure has inspired a more fervent fan following during its decade of development than any installment of the *Call of Duty* or *Grand Theft Auto* series. *Guardian* is the latest masterwork of Fumito Ueda, the auteur designer of *Ico* and *Shadow of the Colossus*. When the late film critic Roger Ebert famously declared in 2006 that games could never be art, angry gamers used their middle fingers to boot up *Ico* and *Colossus* as examples of titles that transcended the medium (see below). Both games delivered

deep puzzles, otherworldly landscapes, and AI partners that inspired a real bond. *The Last Guardian* combines all of these elements into an emotional roller coaster that even Ebert might have considered more than just a game.

Guardian's tale unfolds in a curious flashback format, with your main character recounting how he once escaped from a mysterious castle with the help of a titanic half-bird/half-cat beast named Trico. You'll spend the game slowly earning Trico's trust, training it with snacks and plucking out arrows and spears hurled by the castle's guards. You can gauge Trico's mood — from calm to cautious to angry — by watching the colour of his

eyes. Direct Trico with calls and treats to demolish obstacles, activate switches, or just serve as a bridge over bottomless chasms. Eventually you can clamber up Trico's back and ride him à la that hippie kid from *NeverEnding Story* (why did you wait so long to call her fucking name, Bastian?).

Controlling this winged cat-thing can get frustrating — the creature has a mind of its own — but eventually, through training and near-death escapes, your bond will grow so strong that interactions become more instinctive. You'll actually start to care for Trico. That's when *Guardian* starts to play with your emotions. Suddenly, it's the game's turn to push your buttons. **i**

MASTERWORKS: FOUR PIECES OF INTERACTIVE ART

> 4 <

ICO (2001, PS2)

This first game from *Guardian* designer Ueda introduces the arty touches — such as sun-soaked visuals and deep inter-character relationships — that would come to define his later titles. Players must help a princess escape a stark castle crawling with grabby shadow monsters.

> 3 <

GRIM FANDANGO (1998, PC)

This classic adventure from beloved LucasArts designer Tim Schafer plays like an art deco fever dream. Its groundbreaking 3D character art lets players solve puzzles just by watching the body language of skeletal chain-smoking hero Manny Calavera, travel agent of the afterlife.

> 2 <

BIOSHOCK (2007, XBOX 360, PS3, PC)

A game about the power of choice, *BioShock* lets players slay their way in an underwater city crawling with Prohibition-era monstrosities and waifish little girls you can either spare or “harvest” for more power. It ends in a shocking twist that choice was just an illusion all along.

> 1 <

SHADOW OF THE COLOSSUS (2005, PS 3)

The *Last Guardian's* roots show in this immersive adventure. Players clamber up boss monsters that look and shamle like shaggy mountains, seeking weak points to bring them down. Entire books have been written about the artistic merits of this game, considered the Mona Lisa of interactive entertainment.





METH-ICAN TORTILLAS

A man attempted to transport around 3 pounds (roughly 1.3 kg) of methamphetamine from Mexico into the United States through a border crossing in Port of Nogales. Of course, the best way to transport large quantities of illicit substances across one of the most surveilled borders in the Western world is in a taco. Walter White, he ain't.

The 62-year-old was detained in Arizona by U.S. border protection officials working with a narcotics detection dog. After searching through the man's belongings, they found stacks of hollowed out corn tortillas filled with crystal meth. The man obviously failed to convince the officers that he was trying a new recipe, and is presumably sitting in a jail somewhere wondering where it all went wrong. Another man was busted the very same day, attempting to bring a considerably larger amount across the border in an SUV. The 23-year-old was caught by border police with 26 pounds (12 kg) of

meth stored in his vehicle. The drugs had an estimated street value of \$87,000 US.

These are hardly creative ways to hide drugs guys. We seriously doubt that sour cream will cover the smell of your meth and storing it in your car like you're bringing a boogie board to the beach lacks imagination. We've heard stories of smugglers storing weed in a tombstone; cocaine in breast implants and meth stowed in an Xbox. And these guys got caught – so if you're not at least trying this hard, then don't bother. **o**

AFTER SEARCHING THROUGH THE MAN'S BELONGINGS, THEY FOUND STACKS OF HOLLOWED OUT CORN TORTILLAS FILLED WITH CRYSTAL METH

WHAT'S YOUR POISON?

There are six main drugs most commonly trafficked in the United States. In 2013, the percentages of drug trafficking offenses per drug were as follows:

- Methamphetamine: 24 %
- Powdered cocaine: 24.1 %
 - Marijuana: 21.5 %
- Crack cocaine: 13.1 %
 - Heroin: 9.8 %
- Oxycodone: 4.6 %
- Other drugs: 3 %

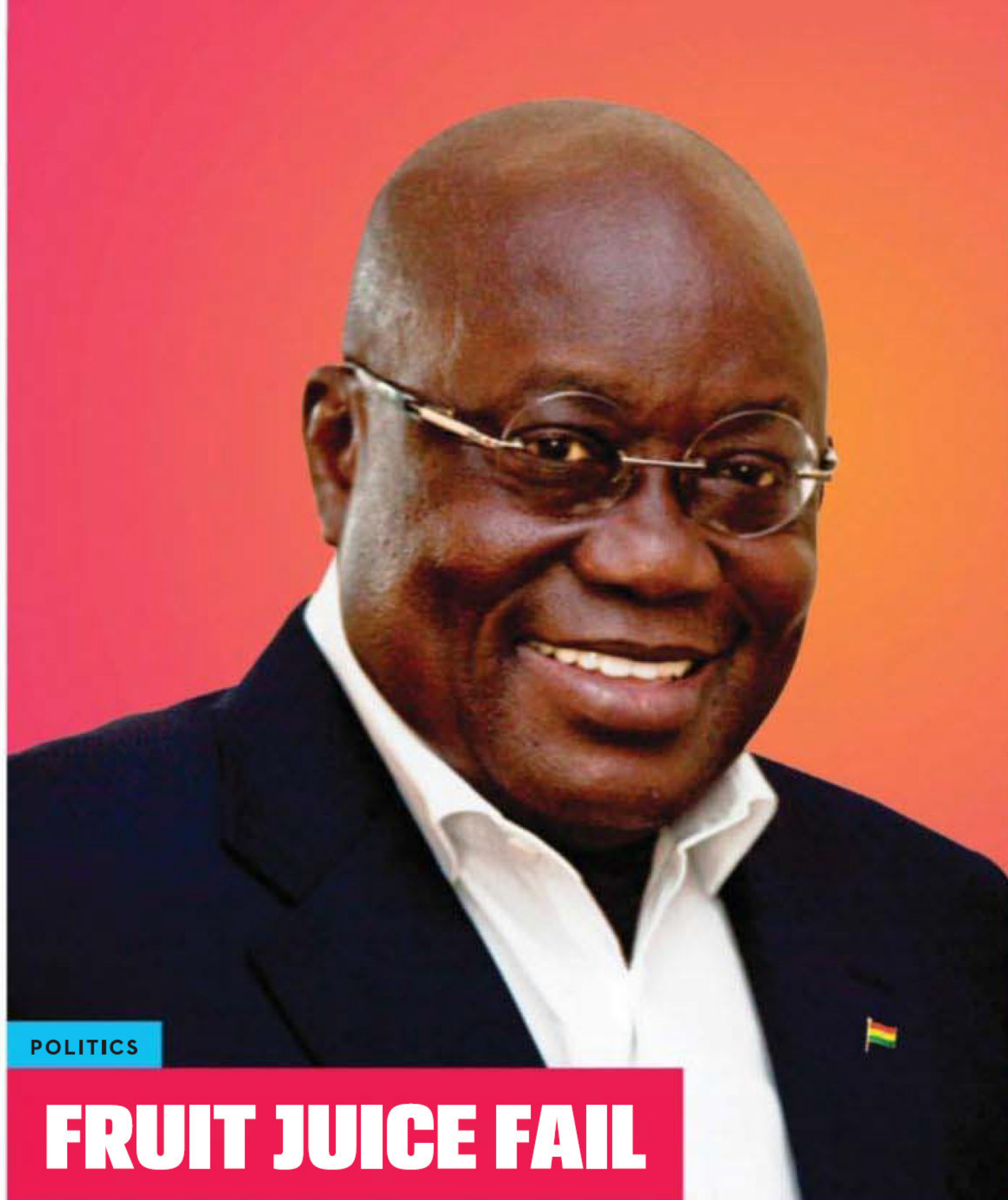


A METHY SITUATION

Since marijuana production and consumption became legal in many places in the United States, Mexican cartels have upped their manufacturing of methamphetamine.

Last year, 15,803 kilograms of the drug was seized along the border, up from 3,076 kilos in 2009.

According to DEA spokesperson Lawrence Payne: "The days of the large-scale U.S. meth labs are pretty much gone, given how much the Mexicans have taken over production south of the border and distribution into the United States...their product is far superior, cheaper and more pure."



POLITICS

FRUIT JUICE FAIL



IT'S always a risk when political campaigns harness the powers of the internet to gain an advantage over their opponents. There's always the very real chance that it can backfire miserably, leading to the complete opposite of the intended effect. This exact situation went down recently in Ghana, where in a strange turn of events, a children's fruit juice, of all things, has become a symbol of solidarity for supporters of Presidential hopeful and main opposition candidate, Nana Akufo-Addo.

The juice, marketed under the brand name Kalypso, comes in small, colourful boxes aimed at primary school aged children. The ruling political party's campaign team posted a photograph of the opposition candidate, dressed in a formal looking white tunic and one of those brimless African Kufi hats, looking very serious while drinking out of the colourful miniature children's juice box. The photo was intended to gently mock the presidential candidate, but instead triggered a revolutionary wave of support that saw people all over the nation buying Kalypso juice and brandishing it on social media and at political rallies as a sign of

support for the opposition leader.

Named the "Kalypso challenge", the online movement to post selfies with the children's drink has seen some Ghanaian citizens get creative, with one military officer even facing an investigation for participating in the craze.

Images of people constructing giant Kalypso replicas, converting water tanks into Kalypsos, plugging their iPhones into the boxes along with a myriad of photos featuring young and old across the nation waving the juice boxes aloft in support of Akufo-Addo, flooded social media, giving the Presidential hopeful – and the children's juice brand – a free wave of publicity. One man even uploaded an image of him using the juice as a replacement for engine coolant – claiming that it was a cheaper alternative and worked just fine. Another man hooked his Kalypso juice box up to a mock catheter and pole and pretended to intravenously inject the drink.

The Military officer put under investigation by the Ghana Armed Forces (GAF) uploaded an image of himself, drinking the now famous juice in

THE PHOTO WAS INTENDED TO GENTLY MOCK THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE, BUT INSTEAD TRIGGERED A REVOLUTIONARY WAVE OF SUPPORT

full uniform. According to GAF officials, all images of personnel in "military accoutrement" are owned by the military and must be cleared before release.

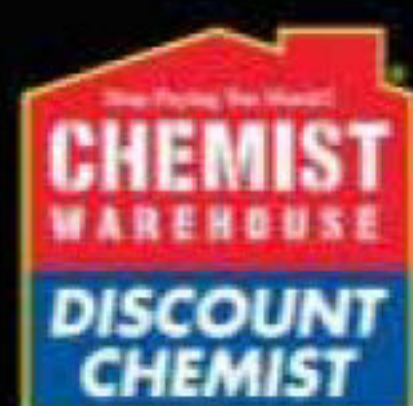
In an attempt to take his opponent down, the incumbent President unintentionally gave him the sort of free publicity that politicians crave. Ahead of the Ghanaian election in December, this could lead to a sweet and juicy victory at the polls for Ghana's Kalypso King. And with more politicians than ever embracing social media as a means to access younger voter demographics, this incident is proof that while some do it very well, there are others who probably shouldn't even be given the Wi-Fi password. **1**

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IN FOCUS

CAPTURING THE MOMENT

PHOTOGRAPHER DANIEL LALINCA
BELIEVES A STRONG CONNECTION TO HIS
MODELS IS KEY TO HIS SUCCESS. THE
RESULTS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES



I WAS born in 1976 in a small city called Ramnicu Valcea, in Romania. I always wanted to get out and travel around the world. So, I bought a camera in 2008. Just to shoot naked girls. I was young and restless. I still am.

Photography is connecting people. This is how I met my wife. And I am still shooting naked girls. I can consider myself a lucky man.

It was with her that I took my first good images. That's why I truly believe in a strong connection with the models. My photography is about capturing

emotions, not just a nice face, body or location.

I am inspired by a lot of artists around the world, I continuously invest in books and magazines. Everywhere I go, I search out photography book stores and buy something. I've even thrown away clothes because I didn't have enough space in my luggage.

I now work as a profesional photographer; it's not just a hobby anymore. I opened my new studio in Bucharest and I am working a lot to improve myself. I still have a lot of stories to tell... **1**

















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THE LIFE OF PABLO

WE ASK *NARCOS* STAR WAGNER MOURA ABOUT HIS UNLIKELY TRANSFORMATION INTO THE WORLD'S MOST NOTORIOUS DRUG DEALER

TO PREPARE for playing Pablo Escobar, the reviled and revered leader of the Medellín drug cartels in the monster Netflix series *Narcos*, Wagner Moura pored over any information he could find about the legendary criminal (and for some, a modern day saint). And then he wiped it all from his mind.

"So many books — especially in Spanish — but I had to forget everything I learned," the 40-year-old Brazilian says. "I needed to bring my own interpretation to his story."

So we kinda had to wonder — why read the books at all if you're just going to forget them? Wouldn't it be better to spend your free time gardening or learning German? *Penthouse* sat down with the fascinating Moura recently.

In person, the actor couldn't be less Pablo-esque. Chatty, open and unaffected, he's incredulous of his current success and appears to be taking it all with a grain of salt.

Wearing a black suit, white shirt, and thick-rimmed glasses, Moura appears shrunken in stature when compared to his on-screen portrayal of the looming Escobar. Which turns out to be a result of wrapping up the second season, which sees the drug lord (spoiler alert) gunned down and killed by Colombian antidrug forces in 1993.

So, the upcoming second season will be Moura's final performance as Pablo. Though, as he reveals, that doesn't necessarily mean the end of the show.



Playing Pablo Escobar in *Narcos*

NINETY PERCENT OF THE COLOMBIAN POPULATION KNOWS EXACTLY WHAT KIND OF MAN HE WAS. EVERY PERSON KNOWS SOMEONE WHO WAS KILLED DURING HIS WAR WITH THE COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT

In a darkened hotel room in central London, the actor — who's enjoyed nearly 20 years as one of Brazil's busiest stars — discusses transforming into the role, why it's important to now leave Pablo behind and his career hopes for the future.

The actor currently splits his time between São Paulo and Los Angeles with journalist wife Sandra Delgado, with whom he has three young sons, Bem, Salvador, and José.

I can't believe you've ruined the whole of season two for me already.

MOURA: How so?

Revealing that Pablo dies and this will be the final season?

MOURA: Well I never said this would be the final season, just that I won't be

a part of it after season two because Pablo will die. There's no changing history. This season is based around the year and a half after he escaped capture right up till his death. And *Narcos* is an incredibly authentic show, it prides itself on that, so to play around with history with poetic license wouldn't be right. It wouldn't suit the integrity of the show.

But that doesn't mean the show will end. There were others to take his place; the drug trade continues today.

How do you feel saying good-bye to him?

MOURA: I am happy and sad. Very relieved. And apprehensive. It's a mixture. I've been playing one of the most divisive figures in history; he was an evil, bad man — a sociopath. There is no getting away from that. One of the

biggest assassins of all time, only after Hitler. But when you visit Barrio Pablo Escobar, you see a mural of him beside Jesus. That is how revered he is. He helped poor people, those in need.

If you say anything negative against the man who built houses, schools, hospitals, churches, that is not a good idea. If you ask his wife, his children, his lovers, he was a warm, loving man who would do anything for them. Speak to the families of those he killed in his reign of terror, to the many families of those lost in that plane crash he orchestrated; they see a monster walking the Earth. Ninety percent of the Colombian population knows exactly what kind of man he was. Every person knows someone who was killed during his war with the Colombian government. It's completely in contrast to how they see him in Medellin, where he is a Robin Hood.

I, as an actor, have to see him and understand him as a human being. I cannot see him as either good or evil but try some way to understand his motivation, but there's no getting away from the bad energy of it, even when you walk away from the cameras. It lingers on you; it clings to your clothes and your skin; it sticks to your soul, and that is not good in the future. You don't need that in your life so I am happy to be walking away from that, but there is a sadness and an anticlimax — “What, that's it?” — two years of my life, every day more or less, dedicated to this one person. When he's gone, it feels a little strange. I miss him in ways, too. For all those reasons, he is one of the greatest characters.

Physically, I am so very relieved. I want to get back to my old self, get rid of Pablo. It's not so easy. *[Laughs]*

You look like you're certainly on your way, if you don't mind me saying.

MOURA: I do not, I love to hear you say that. I think you are lying, but I appreciate the lies.

I'm serious.

MOURA: Thank you. And yes, it is not so easy to do this. Putting on 40 pounds, when you're 40, that is fun. You eat ice cream and pizza and cheeses and bread. I'm not going to lie — the best time of my life. In the beginning. But then the body starts to feel unwell, very slow and sluggish. It's not good for the health; I don't know if I would have done this for any [character] other than Pablo.



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ABOVE: Moura with Paulina Gaitan, who plays Tata Escobar, in *Narcos*; getting bloody was all part of the role playing Pablo Escobar; below with Matt Damon in the sci-fi blockbuster *Elysium* (2013)



the vegan diet, no meat, no dairy, no flavour, no taste [laughs] – only for a month because I cannot live like that forever. I need to cleanse my body of Pablo, his belly. His belly is not my belly. **What will you hold on to of Pablo?**

MOURA: His mustache. [Laughs] I really like his mustache, and my wife says it's very sexy, and she is always right.

You really had a tough challenge ahead when taking on this role because not only did you not look like Escobar, but you also couldn't speak Spanish.

MOURA: It's the craziest case of miscasting in the history of casting. [Laughs] I freely say that. I didn't speak the language, I look nothing like him.... What were they thinking? I judge them a little for casting me. If it wasn't for my very good friend [director José Padilha], I would not have got into the room to read for Pablo. He knew what we could do together.

You know, I was positive I would be able to get by with speaking with an accented English, so I wasn't concerned. All I thought about was, *I am skinny, I am going to have to eat a lot.* Not the worst prospect.

Anyway, it made sense that I would

Acting in a foreign language is one of the hardest tasks ever you will experience because you can't give your utmost to the character, you're always thinking in the back of your mind, *Am I using the right tense? My grammar is so bad*, and that's distracting. But all you can do is practice, practice, practice, and you get better and better. But in another way, your focus is so centered and pinpointed, it helps getting to know the character in more detail, I think. There are pros and cons.

Probably more cons than pros?

MOURA: No, I think the other way. I'm getting the opportunity at 40 to learn another language. Now I can speak Spanish, and I wouldn't have been able to without doing this show. I see it as a big achievement.

Another big achievement is your Golden Globe nomination for Best Actor. You didn't win, but it's pretty huge.

MOURA: Thank for reminding me, man. [Laughs] I wanted to win! [Laughs] That was a really, really big surprise for me, to be recognised for your work and for the show to get that. I wasn't surprised that the show got it, I knew there was a good chance, but for me, that was a

I'M GETTING THE OPPORTUNITY AT 40 TO LEARN ANOTHER LANGUAGE. NOW I CAN SPEAK SPANISH, AND I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO WITHOUT DOING THIS SHOW. I SEE IT AS A BIG ACHIEVEMENT

have to speak Spanish because how many times have we watched, you know, Egyptians speak with British accents, or Japanese soldiers, or whoever, speak English with accents? Why would they speak English? Why would Pablo speak English? It makes no sense.

Acting is hard enough at the best of times – how do you do it in a completely foreign language?

MOURA: I follow some great words by Javier Bardem about working in another language. He says when he works in another language, up there is this great office in his head, everyone is making calls, sending emails, and it's this frenzy of action happening. But when he works in his own language, Spanish, the office is shut down. No calls, no nothing.

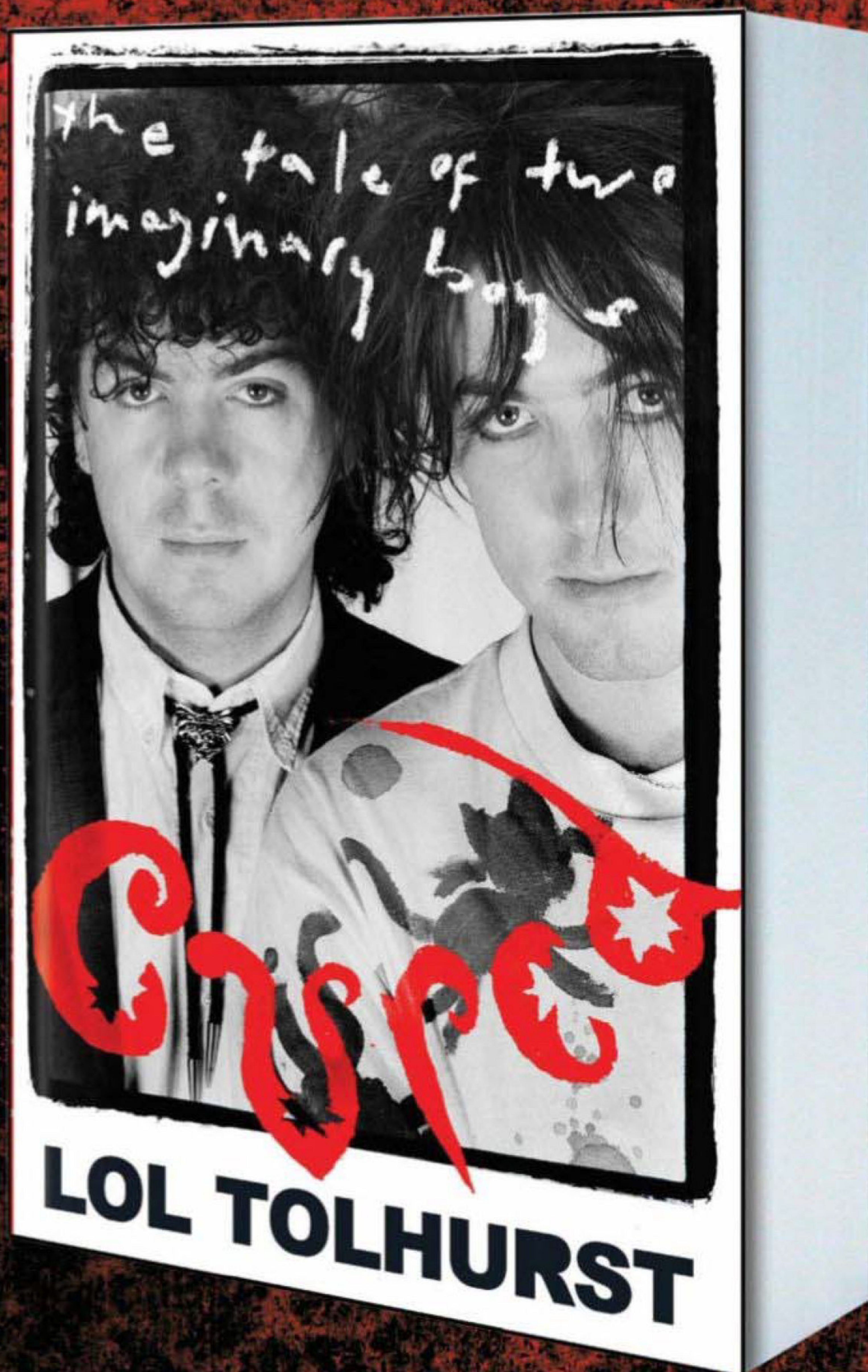
shock. And to be in the same category as Jon Hamm, Liev Schreiber...I'm a big big fan of those guys. Yeah, it was great. **So now that you're finished with *Narcos*, what comes next?**

MOURA: I want to be nominated for a Golden Globe. And I want to win this time. [Laughs]

What are your next projects?

MOURA: Nothing confirmed as of yet, but there are talks happening, meetings with people I would have never gotten a chance to talk to if it weren't for *Narcos*. *Narcos* has changed my career and my life. It's hugely popular around the world, and I knew it was a really authentic, well-produced show, but I and no one else working on it could have predicted how popular it has become. ❶

The story of a timeless band
and a life truly lived.



From suburban London to the Mojave Desert, CURED brings an acute eye to a lifelong friendship – including parts of THE CURE'S creative journey that are not normally revealed and many first-hand accounts of Lol's personal odyssey.

SUMMER FEVER

THERE are few things as synonymous with summer as the smell of sunscreen, mini-skirts, bronze bodies, a salty sea breeze and of course, convertibles. The latter doubling as a sex symbol. Anyone can drive a car, but step into one of these convertibles, and you will step out a man. A recent study revealed that simply driving a fast car will increase your testosterone levels. According to the evolutionary behavioural scientist Gad Saad: "Just put a guy in a Porsche, and his testosterone levels shoot up, whether people watch or not." This biological reaction, according to Saad, is a form of "sexual signalling."



HL

HIGH LIFE



PORSCHE 918 SPYDER

The Porsche 918 Spyder is a mid-engined plug-in hybrid sports car. Translated: more bang for your buck. Ever met a girl who wouldn't get in your car because "it's bad for the environment"? Well, this fucker has a lithium-ion battery pack that delivers an all-electric range of 19km, at which point, hopefully, you've impressed her enough because once the battery drops, it's back to all fuel, baby. And anyway, fuck the environment when you feel and look this good.



FERRARI 458 SPIDER

When it comes to sex appeal, you just can't go past Ferrari. The look, the feel, the heritage, it all adds up to one big fuck you to people who drive conventional cars, and one big "fuck me", as you drive past babes, jaws hanging. Throw in the most awesomely responsive normally aspirated V12 in history, head-turning looks, and you have a panty dropping cocktail, a fitting swansong for high-performance turbo-free engines.



1956 CORVETTE CONVERTIBLE

The Chevrolet Corvette is the first generation of Corvette sports car produced by Chevrolet. Equipped with a 265ci 225hp V8 engine, dual quad carburettor, and 3-speed manual transmission, you'll be hard pressed fitting the hoards of women throwing themselves at you as you cruise by in the 2-door convertible. Never mind, pick one, or, grab a mate, put your foot to the floor and feel that testosterone rise.





1965 AC COBRA

If you are looking for a jaw-dropping powerhouse with looks to kill, this is it. Timeless design, engineering and a V8, 7.0 L engine at 425 bhp should see this 2-door roadster at the top of your "to-buy" list if you ever want to get to the top of her "to-do" list. This thing has balls, and it takes a pair to wrangle this classic American muscle car as you cruise top down in one of the ultimate performance classics.

SUMMER FEVER

1966-1969 ALFA ROMEO SPIDER (DUETTO, VELOCE) SERIES I

It's a classic. What more can you say about the Alfa Romeo Spider? Designed and manufactured by Italian design house Pininfarina, this thing is a rolling testament to the slick roadster. It might not pack a punch like some of the cars we've featured, but it's sophisticated and suave as hell – just like you. Remember, it's not the size of the package, but how you use it.



SO YOU WANT TO BUY?

CARS are bought to be driven, at least that's what most people will tell you.

Buying a mint sportscar, locking it away in an air tight room and keeping it in pristine condition, only to sell 10 years later when all the others have been thrashed is a travesty. Or is it? When you consider the price tag some cars are pulling, it's probably not such a bad idea. The art of collecting cars is in identifying vehicles that will increase in appeal. Factors to take into consideration when looking to buy a car that will appreciate.

1

Limited supply, either by limited manufacture (i.e. a limited number) or low-volume.

2

Something with some kind of heritage, no matter how distant.

3

Something which either has a following, or you believe will do so in the future.

4

Something that is likely to become cheap enough to be purchased and modified.



2008 AUDI A4 2.0 TDI



CORVETTE, C4 GENERATION

3 CARS THAT WILL APPRECIATE IN VALUE

> WHAT: Audi A4/S4, B7 Generation, 2004-2008

> WHY: These cars have a very classic, clean look. They look good and go fast. The Audi brand ties to sportiness is also a draw card.

> HOW MUCH? You'll want to find a clean car with the lowest number of kilometres. A4s are known to soar in price from \$5,000 to \$25,000. Regardless of what you pay, look for something dealer-serviced as Audi's thrive on expert care.

> WHAT: Chevrolet Corvette, C4 Generation, 1984-1996

> WHY: Performance and bang for your buck. The Corvette brand has stood the test of time and will continue to do so. Look for a convertible version of this classic beauty.

> HOW MUCH? Chevy sold more than 350,000 of these adrenaline pumpers. Now they're flooding the used car market, so prices are low. Good ones go for \$8,000, not so good for \$5,000.

> WHAT: Toyota Celica, Seventh Generation, 1999-2006

> WHY: The more powerful GT-S will likely appreciate more because of its sportier image. What you need to look for is a low-mileage, dealer-maintained car – they are out there, available at unbelievably low prices.

> HOW MUCH? You can get the nicest one for \$8000-9,000. Or a nasty one for \$2,000.

CAR GURU

TIPS FROM TONY

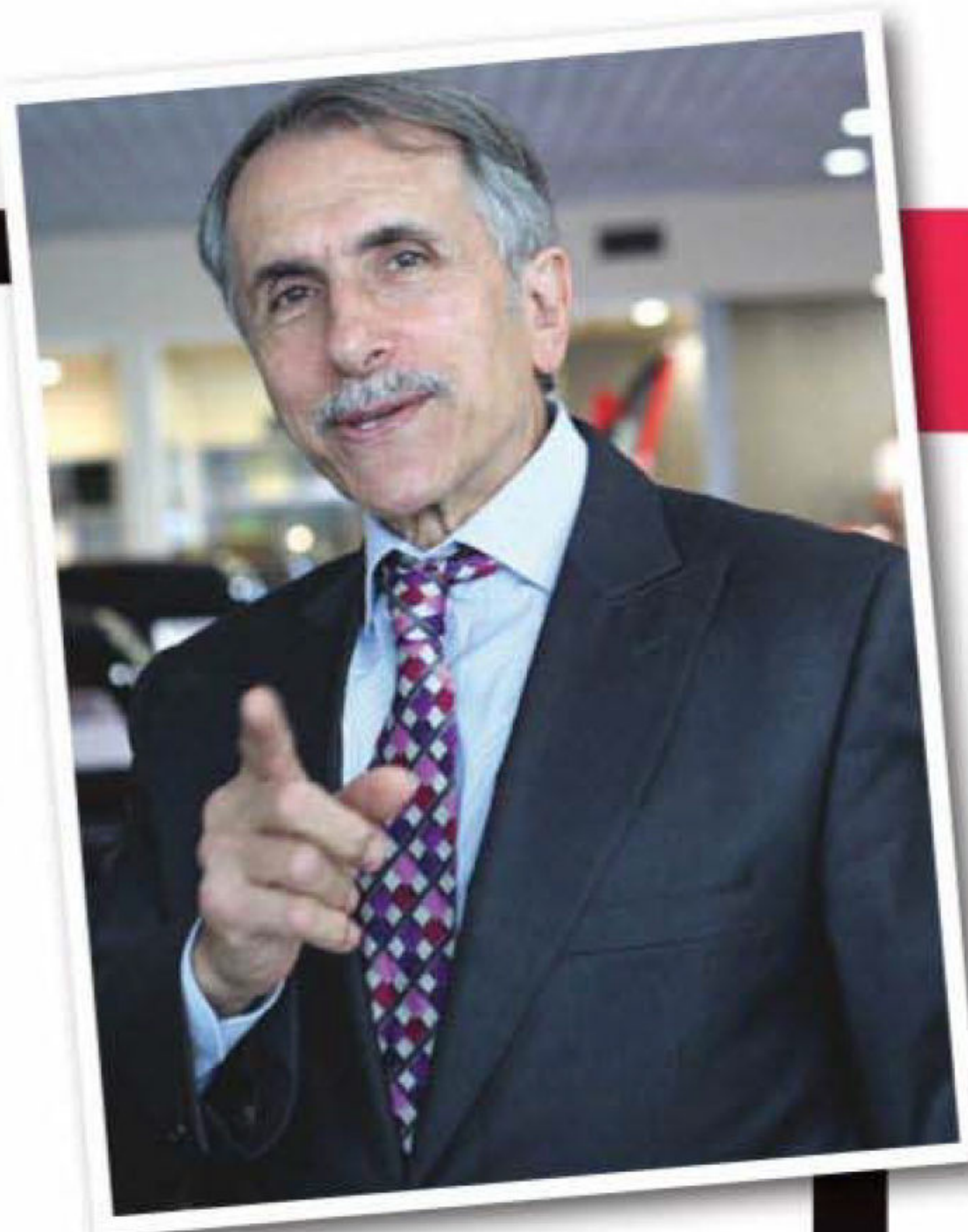
HOT TIPS ON PICKING UP YOUR FIRST RIDE
FROM SCUDERIA GRAZIANI

"I can tell you that there's a lot of money going into collectables... it's about passion and if you are able to speculate on your passion, isn't that fantastic? The difference is you can buy \$2 Million in shares – no passion, just digits on a screen – boring. Or you can go home and have 6 or 7 fantastic cars set up – that's passion and you know you'll make money long term because the value of these cars will increase."

1 > What make and model do you want? It's important when investing in a car that you get something you see yourself driving. A Porsche might be a good option if you want

something to drive around the city, or if you want some extra room for the kids, for example. But then again, if you've always dreamt of buying a Ferrari, then follow that instinct.

2 > Look for something that will increase in value. Some cars are instant collector's items. This is because they already have a strong following and the manufacturer may only produce a limited number. A good example of this is the 1972 Ferrari Dino, which increased over 500% in value in the last 5 years, making it a better investment than a house in Sydney (and a lot more fun).



3 > Investing in cars is like investing in art – you can enjoy it aesthetically as well as financially. Think about the cars teenage boys have plastered up on the walls in their rooms. These are the vehicles that increase in value as those same boys seek out their dream car when they're older.





SUMMER HOTSPOTS

MANCATION

TOP 6 DAY DRINKING HOTSPOTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

1 > PUROBEACH, DUBAI

Located on the 6th floor of the Conrad Dubai hotel is Purobeach – a poolside haven. Sip Patron from a day bed beside the pool while DJs lay down smooth beats throughout the day. When you've had your fill of Cava, slink off to the open-air seafood restaurant that accompanies Purobeach for a feed.

2 > AROA BEACHSIDE INN, RAROTONGA

Situated on Arorangi beach on the west coast of Rarotonga is the chilled out Aroa Beachside Inn. It's the beachside shack you dream of owning when you retire. Grab yourself a signature “magic” cocktail, served in a jar, claim a hammock or hang by the bar and watch the whales.

3 > ROCK BAR, INDONESIA

Undoubtedly the best place to drink in Bali – the Rock Bar is perched on a rugged cliff 14-metres above the Indian Ocean. The 360-degree vantage point provides the perfect view for an afternoon of drinking while listening to live bands provide magical acoustic performances from the open-air stage.

4 > WATSONS BAY BEACH CLUB, SYDNEY

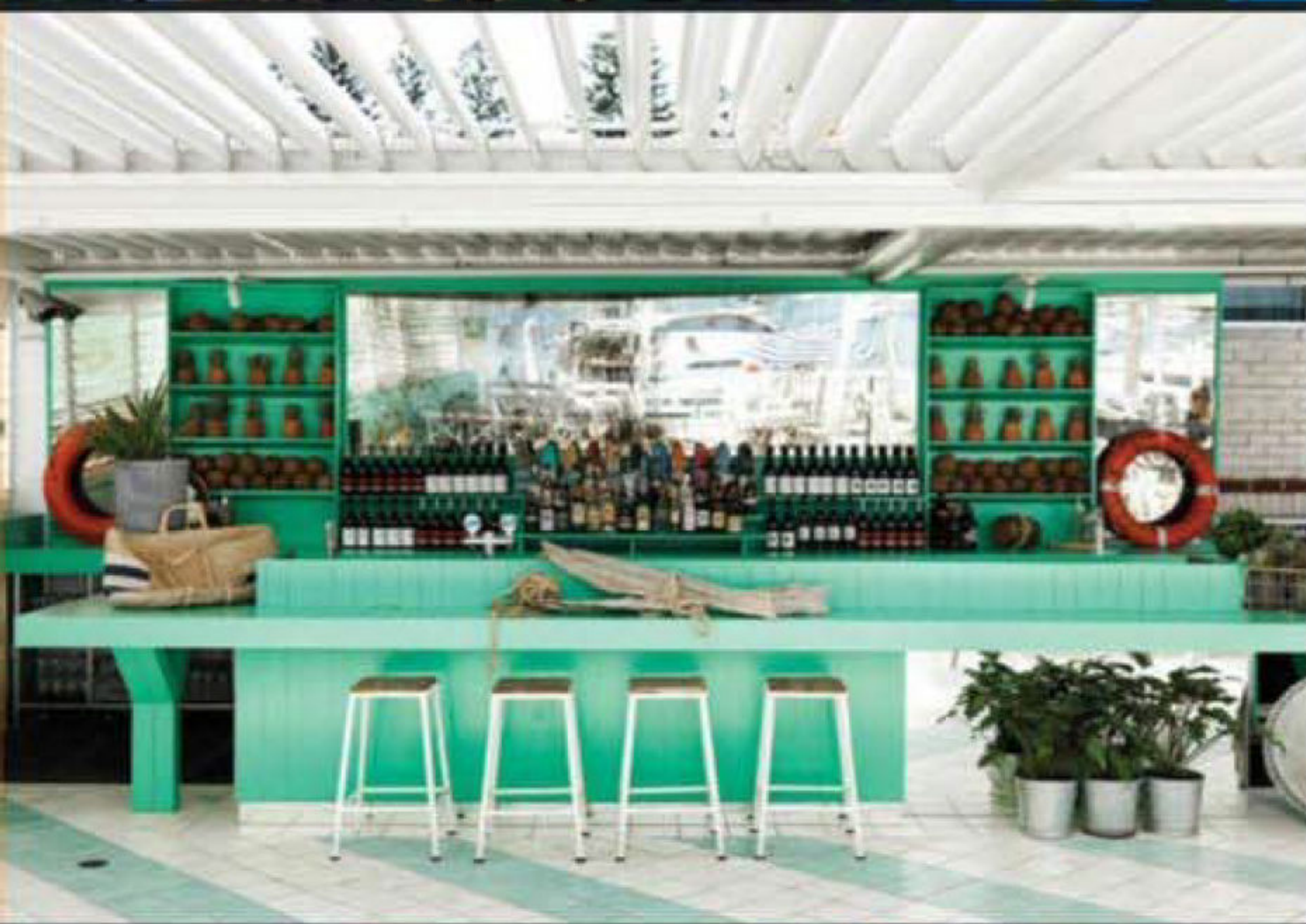
Located on the waters edge of the famed Watsons Bay, the Beach Club is one of Sydney's most iconic day drinking hot spots. Grab a bucket of tiger prawns and a bunch of beers and enjoy the wicked views of the city skyline amid swaying palm trees and a warm breeze.

5 > SENOR FROG'S, MEXICO

It's the bar “where anything can happen” and the staff are primed to make sure visitors have a good time and leave their inhibitions at the door. Don't be surprised if you find yourself drinking Campari straight from the bottle...at midday. Jelly shots, beauties, bands and sunshine. Consider us sold.

6 > USHUAIA BEACH HOTEL, SPAIN

Set on Boss Beach, Ushuaia celebrates the heyday of outdoor Ibiza – sunshine, dancing and drinking. The bar is infamous for hosting some of the best parties on the island, which happen in the club, on the beach and around the pool at any given time of day.



JUST TAKE MY MONEY

MARTIN AIRCRAFT PERSONAL JETPACK

Don't sit in traffic like a chump, avoid it like the superhero you are – with rockets strapped to your back. Recently given the green light to go on market, this 2.0-litre petrol engine jet-pack will have you cruising at 74km/h for up to 30 minutes at a time. However, being this fly doesn't come cheap. Price: \$150,000

GOLFBOARD

I know what's on your mind: why didn't I think of this!? Well, because quite frankly, it's ridiculous, and that's what we're looking for. Let's be honest, golf can be a little boring, so step it up and become the next Rodney Dangerfield of the modern golf course with the Golfboard. It's a cross between a golf cart and a skateboard, compatible with most golf bags so you can carve the green in style. Price: \$6,500

LEXUS HOVERBOARD

Time to live out your childhood fantasy: whisking your dream-girl away on a hoverboard like *Back to the Future's* Marty McFly. Now is the time. Lexus have created the world's first hoverboard. The downside, it will only work on certain surfaces, i.e. giant magnets. Time to get back to work and keep saving, this rodeo ain't going to be cheap. Cost: TBA

BATMAN BATPOD

Yes, this is a bat pod from *The Dark Knight* and *The Dark Knight Rises*. Yes, you can buy it. Custom made chassis with 31" Hoosier racing tires, a Honda 750 cc engine with fibreglass body panels finished in metallic grey screams look at me, I'm the Batman. Cost: \$130,000



BATMAN BATPOD





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B

BESPOKE



SIGN OF THE TIMES

THE WATCH MAKETH THE MAN
BY GRACE ONEILL

THE ART OF TIME

WHERE WOMEN HAVE A SMORGASBORD OF OPTIONS WHEN IT COMES TO THE WORLD OF JEWELLERY AND ADORNMENT, THE ALTERNATIVES FOR MEN ARE LIMITED. THAT'S WHY A MAN'S WATCH SAYS SO MUCH ABOUT HIM. BLACK LEATHER WITH A WHITE FACE? CLASSIC. A CHUNKY PLATINUM BAND? DURABLE. BROWN LEATHER WITH GOLD HARDWARE? STYLISH. A VELCRO STRAP? LET'S JUST SAY IT MIGHT BE TIME FOR A GOOD HARD LOOK IN THE MIRROR.

THE POINT IS THIS: EVEN WHEN WE HAVE IPHONES AND MACBOOKS AND TVS TELLING US WHAT TIME AND WHAT DATE IT IS, YOU STILL WANT TO BE SEEN AS THE GUY WITH A GREAT WATCH ON HIS WRIST. THAT'S BECAUSE WATCHES HAVE TRANSCENDED THEIR BASIC FUNCTION; THEY'RE A RIGHT OF PASSAGE - AND EVERY MAN DESERVES A WATCH THAT HE LOVES.



WATCHES THROUGH THE AGES

1500s

THE WATCH INDUSTRY IS BORN IN SWITZERLAND, WITH THE FIRST POCKET WATCH CREATED IN 1574.



1812

THE FIRST EVER WRISTWATCH IS PRODUCED BY SWISS WATCHMAKERS FOR ITALIAN ROYALTY.



1914-1918

WW1 SOLDIERS ARE EACH GIVEN WRISTWATCHES - THE FIRST TIME MEN HAVE WORN WATCHES EN MASSE.



THE NEW FRONTIER

WITH THE RAPIDLY CHANGING RATE OF TECHNOLOGY, IT CAN BE HARD TO KEEP UP WITH WHICH NEW FUNCTIONS DO WHAT, AND WHAT IT ALL REALLY MEANS. HERE'S A BREAKDOWN OF FOUR KEY FEATURES TO KNOW

Increased power reserves

"Power reserves" primarily refer to how long an automatic watch (that is, watches that aren't powered by batteries, but by intricate mechanical structures within that are built to work only while you're wearing it) will keep ticking once you take it off your wrist. The average automatic watch will last 38-48 hours before it needs to be re-wound, while others, like the updated Breitling models, can last between 70 and 100 hours.

Increased accuracy

It may sound obvious, but the accuracy of time reading in watches is something top-tier companies are still constantly innovating. Breitling's electronic models are all equipped with SuperQuartz™ movements, which are ten times more accurate than the standard quartz equivalents.

Automatic humidity regulation

Intricately designed incubators within high-quality watches allow the watch to regulate different temperatures without effecting or harming any of the inside mechanics or functions.

Chronometer certification

The Swiss Official Chronometer Testing Institute (COSC) is an independent body that puts watches through a series of gruelling tests to ensure world class precision and reliability. Watches are tested for 15 days and 15 nights in five different positions and three temperatures to pass the test, with only six per cent of watches on the market making the grade. Breitling is one of the few brands in the world to offer a full-range of COSC-approved watches.



THE SWISS EFFECT

"Why are you only talking about the Swiss?" we hear you ask. The answer is simple: The Swiss have been at the forefront of watchmaking since watchmaking began (see our handy history guide for details). From the early 16th century until today, almost every major technological innovation in watchmaking has come out of Switzerland, and the world's best watch companies, from Rolex to Omega to Breitling, are all storied Swiss names.



1952

BREITLING CREATES THE NAVITIMER 'WRIST-INSTRUMENT', PURPOSE-BUILT FOR PILOTS. IT GOES ON TO BECOME ONE OF THE GREAT WATCHMAKING CLASSICS OF THE 20TH CENTURY.



1960s:

THE FIRST ELECTRONIC QUARTZ WATCHES ARE DEVELOPED IN SWITZERLAND.



1983:

SWISS QUARTZ WATCHES WITH PLASTIC BANDS ARE LAUNCHED, MAKING OWNING A WATCH MORE ACCESSIBLE AND FASHIONABLE FOR A YOUNGER MARKET.



2015:

APPLE LAUNCHES THE APPLE WATCH, SPAWNING A GENERATION OF 'SMART WATCHES' SYNCED TO SMARTPHONES.

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Simply Perfect Cocktails

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KNOW YOUR LINGO

IF YOU'RE GOING TO INVEST IN A PROPER WATCH, YOU NEED TO KNOW WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR (AND WHAT TO NAME-DROP AT THE COUNTER). HERE'RE FOUR TERMS TO COMMIT TO MEMORY

HOROLOGY

Simply, it's the study and measurement of time.

QUARTZ

Refers to battery-powered watches. Quartz watches usually have less intricate mechanisms powering them, and will, therefore, sit on the more affordable end of the spectrum. You can identify a "quartz" watch if it has individual, second-by-second ticks.

AUTOMATIC

Or "mechanical" calibre watches are made with intricate, inbuilt mechanisms that power the watch using energy from a wound spring, rather than a battery. These usually fetch a higher price as reputable watch companies create their own, bespoke, highly technical mechanisms to power them. You can identify an "automatic" watch if the hands move in a "sweeping motion", rather than in individual ticks.

CALIBRE

This refers to the "movement" of the watch, or, quite literally, "what makes it tick". There are two types of calibres in horology: quartz and automatic.

I LIKE THE WAY YOU MOVE...

BREITLING BOASTS ONE OF THE MOST INTRICATE, WELL-RESPECTED CALIBRES IN THE WATCH INDUSTRY THANKS TO THEIR OBSESSION WITH INNOVATION. IT'S WHAT INSPIRED THE BRAND TO LAUNCH CHRONOWORKS PERFORMANCE LAB, A THINK TANK FOR THE FINEST WATCHMAKING SPECIALISTS TO EXPERIMENT WITH AVANT-GARDE CONCEPTS AND INNOVATION IN ONE OF THE BEST-EQUIPPED LABS IN THE WORLD.



WATCHES KNOW YOUR TYPE

YOUR PERFECT WATCH WILL VARY BASED ON YOUR DAY-TO-DAY NEEDS, BUT IT WILL PROBABLY FALL INTO ONE OF THESE FOUR CATEGORIES. SERIOUS WATCH COLLECTORS WILL OWN AT LEAST ONE WATCH IN EACH CATEGORY, EVENTUALLY.



THE DRESS WATCH

FOR: Special occasions.

THINK: Of it as a piece of jewellery – it's all about how it looks.

LOOK FOR: Watches with thin, black or brown leather straps and simple faces.



THE SPORTS WATCH

FOR: Working out or extreme sports.

THINK: Of a sports watch like it's indestructible, it should be waterproof and (within limits) damage proof.

LOOK FOR: Heavier-duty watches with rubber bands.



THE EVERYDAY WATCH

FOR: The day-to-day grind.

THINK: Of it as the one thing you can put on every day and never have to worry about.

LOOK FOR: More casual shapes, colours and materials; canvas over leather, a black face over a white face and a thicker band.



THE DIVER'S WATCH

FOR: Professionals.

THINK: Of this as your go-to if you're a pilot or an avid diver, but also as a stylish, heavier-duty alternative to a dress watch.

LOOK FOR: Chunky, stainless steel models with a more utilitarian face.

\$\$\$

MONEY MATTERS

SO, WHAT MAKES ONE WATCH COST \$100 AND ANOTHER COST \$10,000? THINK OF IT LIKE YOU THINK OF A CAR. THE BETTER THE MATERIAL, THE MORE RIGOROUS THE TESTING, THE MORE REVERED THE BRAND, THE MORE YOU'RE GOING TO PAY. AS YOU MOVE UP THE SPECTRUM WITH WATCHES, YOU'RE ESSENTIALLY PAYING FOR THE BEST, MOST INTRICATE MECHANICS IN THE BUSINESS.

WHICH WATCH ARE YOU?



THE COLD HARD CLASSICIST

Your modus operandi? Keep it classic; because you know nothing says "style" like understated confidence.

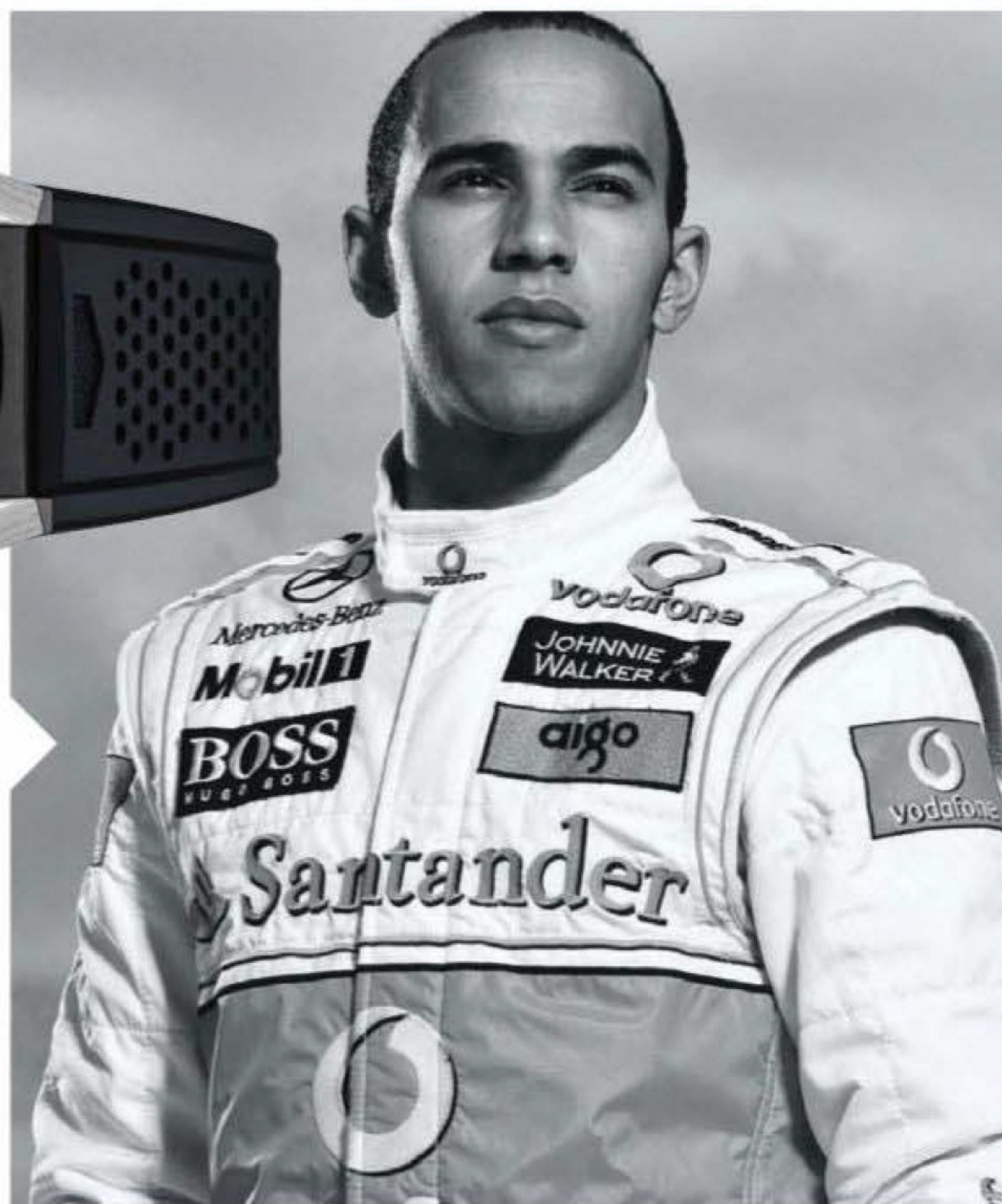
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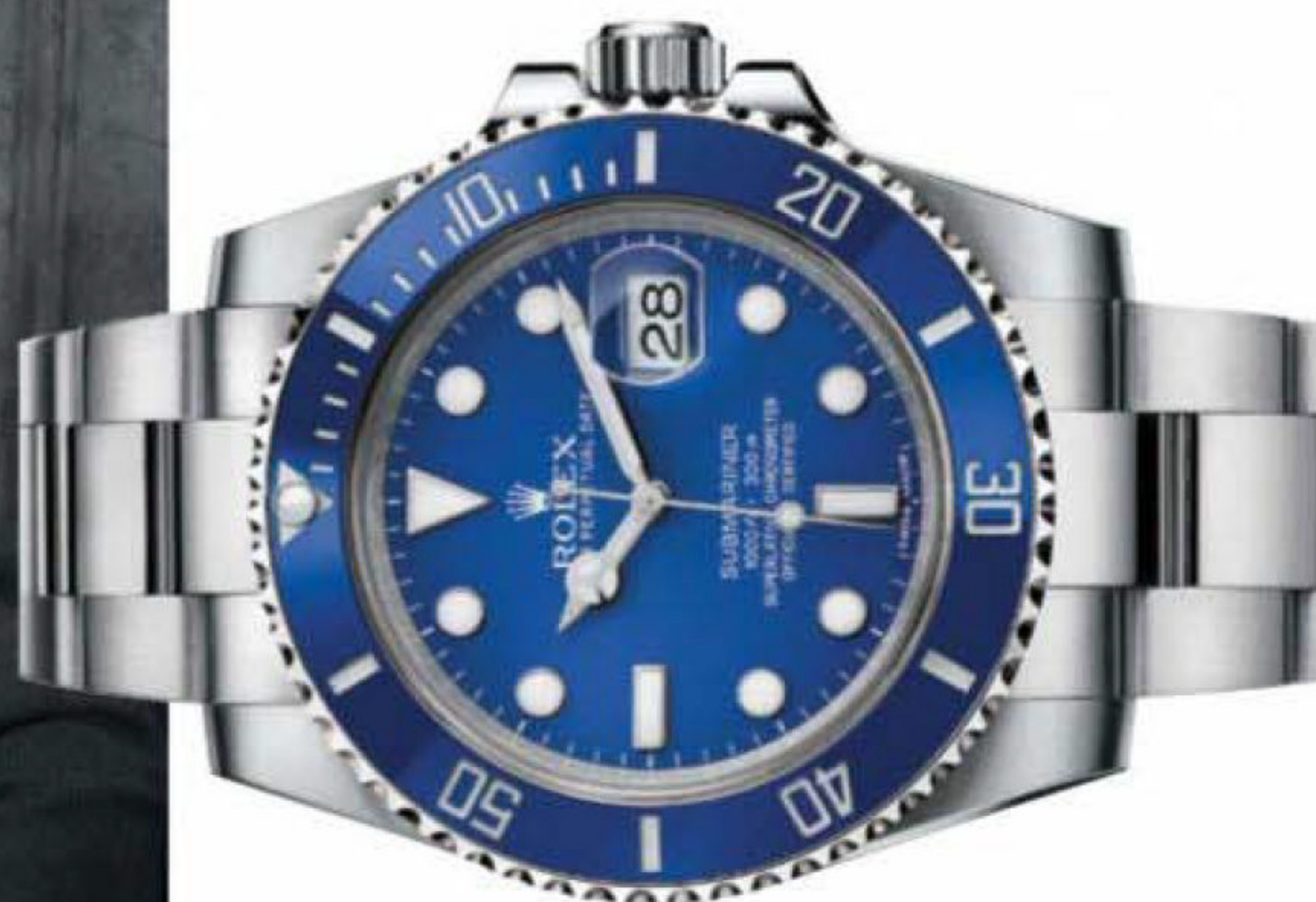


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Looks trump all else in your books – your watch needs to match your Armani suit and Saint Laurent briefcase, after all.

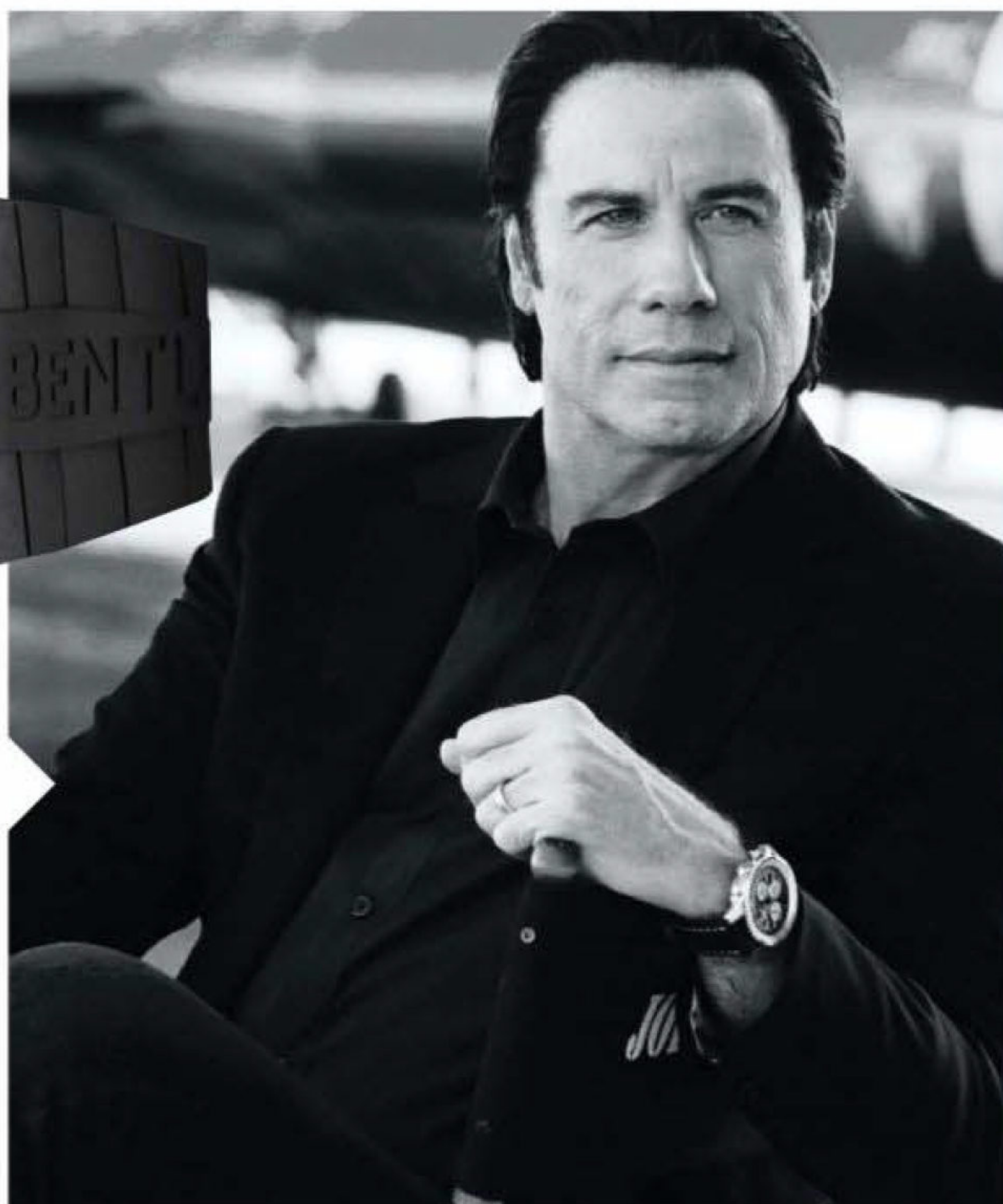
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A PENTHOUSE GUIDE TO BUYING YOUR FIRST WATCH

IF THE ACTUAL PROCESS OF PHYSICALLY GOING TO BUY YOUR FIRST WATCH STILL FEELS DAUNTING, FEAR NOT. IT'S A LOT EASIER THAN IT SOUNDS (PLUS WE'VE GIVEN YOU THE ARSENAL TO SOUND LIKE A PRO!). HERE'S A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

1. DO YOUR RESEARCH

Reading this section counts as research, but do more. Who always looks fucking great on the red carpet? Tom Hardy? Michael Fassbender? Whoever's style you like, check out which watches they're rocking. Google extensively, look in shop windows and find what style works for you.

2. SET PARAMETERS

Decide early on what your price point is, and be realistic about what you're able to get for that figure. Are you better off going new or vintage? Automatic or quartz? Are you going to go for something great looking, or something practical, or, ideally, something that straddles the line between both?

3. KNOW YOUR WRIST SIZE

Have your wrists measured. Most guy's wrists range between 34-44mm, and the size of your wrist will affect which size strap and face you'll want. You don't want something that dominates your wrist and looks out of place.

4. SHOP

At this point, you should be set – head to a watch boutique and try out some styles for yourself. Experiment with what looks and feels good, take recommendations and feel confident with your choice. A watch should be a personal decision after all, and – if you make the right choice – will wind up with you having a piece you will keep for a long time.

A FINAL NOTE

THOUGH IT CAN SEEM TEMPTING TO OPT FOR THE CHEAPER VARIETY, REMEMBER THE VALUE OF HIGHER-QUALITY PIECES LASTS A LIFETIME, NOT JUST FROM A SENTIMENTALITY AND STYLE PERSPECTIVE, BUT FROM AN INVESTMENT PERSPECTIVE. CHECK BREITLING.COM FOR EXAMPLES OF CLASSIC, TIMELESS PIECES.



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GOOD TASTE



MAKE MINE A MANWICH

YOUR PERFECT GUIDE TO BUILDING THE ULTIMATE
MAN SANDWICH





BUILD-A-MANWICH

THE ULTIMATE MANWICH

A GOOD PLATE OF FOOD IS SIMPLE. IT'S ONE MASSIVE
MANWICH WITH NO SIGN OF A SIDE SALAD

OUR obsession with meat, bread and sauce started well over 100 years ago. The Germans trace it back to the hamburger from Hamburg, of course, while the Americans claim burgers have been part of their national identity since Christopher Columbus arrived. Surely Donald and Hillary can agree over a love for cheeseburgers, yet no-one knows who truly invented it. Down Under, similar bites have always been a classic, and we embrace the manwich with open arms.

Manwich's offer the chance to stack mounds of meat with sticky cheese toppings and sweet, spicy, salty flavours. That, and there's nothing more satisfying than the collapse of a manwich as you shovel it into your mouth.

When it comes to assembling your monstrosity – size matters. A manwich should be too hefty to pick up, even with both hands, and the insides must be ready to burst out the sides as you squeeze together the contents. Don't worry: it's designed to be a mess. Red meats often match with mustard or tomato sauces; blue cheese and bacon is a winning combo, and chilli wimps can opt for something creamy to cool their tastebuds. Let the carnage begin.

CAUTION

MANWICH CONSTRUCTION
▶▶▶▶ IN PROGRESS ▶▶▶▶

STEP 1: MAN BUN

Large percentages of the population think a man bun is that bundle of hair guys tie up to the top of their head. It's not – it's one of these.

BRIOCHE BUN



SANDWICH BREAD



WHITE BAP



SUBMARINE ROLL



STEP 2: MEAT HEAVEN

You're probably staring at this list and thinking about stacking more than one meat. Go for it. In fact, we challenge you to mound all four together.

BEEF PATTY



CHICKEN BREAST



PULLED PORK



CRISPY BACON



STEP 3: TOP IT OFF

Every guy should have his go-to cheese whether it's the lighter stuff or strong, bold and blue. These are the staple front runners.

CHEDDAR



SWISS



BLUE



BRIE



STEP 4: GET SAUCY

Finally, slap a load of sauce on top of your manwich.

TOMMY GUN

Use Heinz ketchup as a base but thicken it to a relish by adding finely sliced cucumber, onion and red pepper with a little mustard and celery seed.



COLONEL MUSTARD

Mix Colman's hot dog mustard with extra pinches of paprika, garlic powder and turmeric. Powerful stuff.



BIG BAD QUINTON

Add Worcestershire sauce, finely chopped onion and garlic, ketchup, brown sugar, cayenne pepper and apple cider vinegar to a base barbeque sauce.



CHILLI KICK

Chuck finely chopped jalapeños, red pepper, onions, rosemary, brown sugar and cinnamon to a supermarket chilli sauce to give it more zing.



BACONNAISE

Add crumbled crispy bacon to Hellmann's mayonnaise with a squeeze of lemon juice, mustard and bacon fat. Revolutionary.





MORE MOUTH WATERING MANWICHES

WHEN HUNGER STRIKES YOU CAN'T
GO PAST THESE STAPLE CLASSICS

— THE REUBEN —

A hot mess of beef, Swiss cheese, sauerkraut and Russian dressing grilled between two slices of bread. Melts on your plate and in your mouth.

— LOBSTER HOAGIE —

Foot long orgasm of lobster swimming in mayonnaise; with lettuce, lemon juice and anything else you fancy.

— THE CUBAN —

Old school cheese and ham combination with fresh roasted pork, pickles and mustard, grilled between thin and crispy Cuban bread.

— THE DAGWOOD —

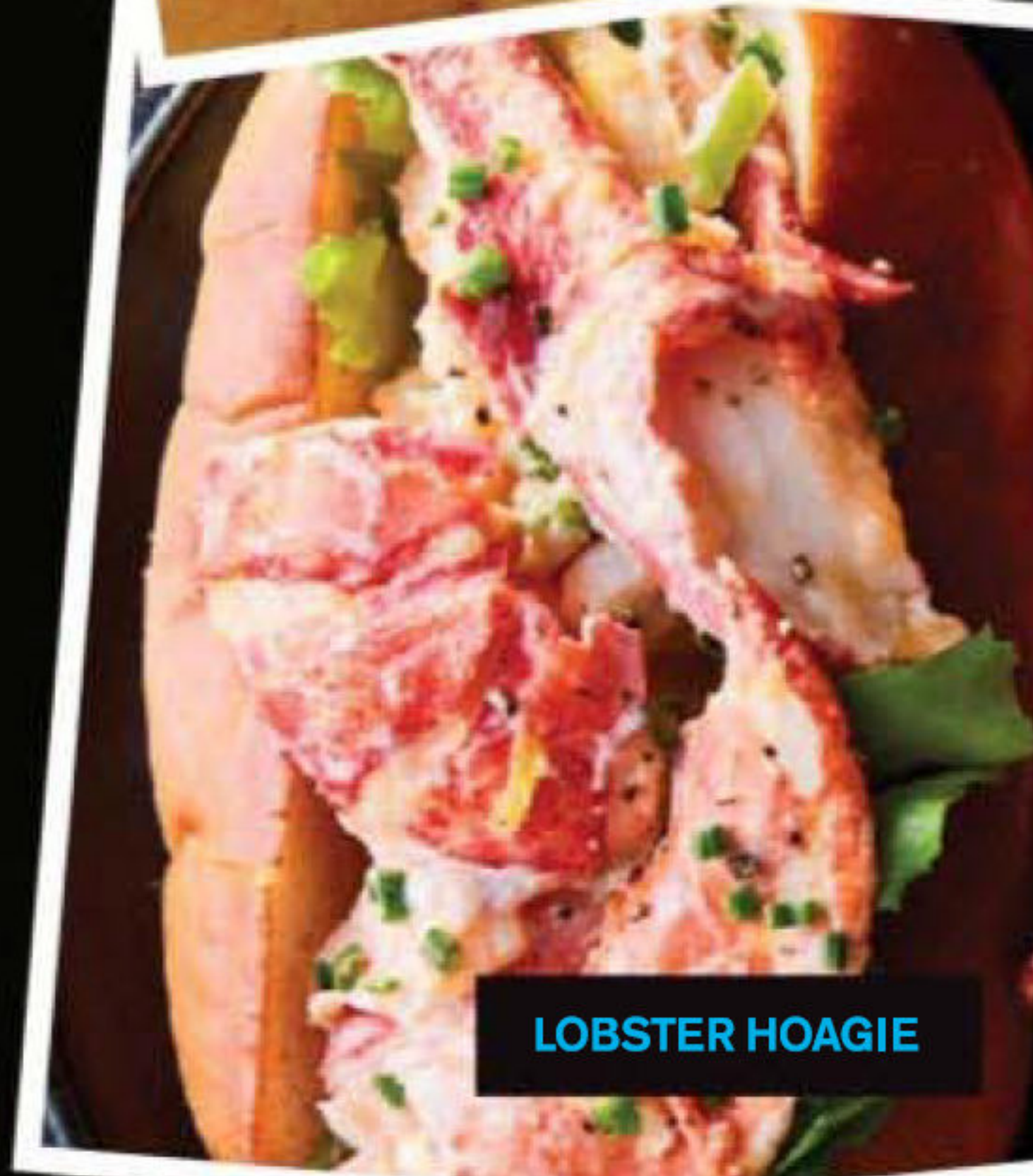
Famous for its huge list of ingredients, monumental structure and pinned olive resting on top of stacks of bread. It's a million sandwiches in one.

— SLOPPY JOE —

The sloppy meat and bolognese sauce is slammed into a roll with extra coleslaw for a simple yet effective manwich.



THE REUBEN



LOBSTER HOAGIE



THE CUBAN



SLOPPY JOE

THE DAGWOOD



BBQ LIKE A CHAMPION

LEARN TO BARBIE LIKE A KING WITH 30-TIME GRAND PIT MASTER AND
MASTERCHEF AUSTRALIA JUDGE ANDY GRONEMAN

WHEN it comes to the ultimate BBQ, look no further than Yoder Smokers. The American brand, with a handy importer in Adelaide, boasts professional quality with inspirational designs. Just look at the Durango 24.

Whether you're competing at a national competition, or against the guy next door, you can only dream of smoking your meat on 418 square inches of premium grilling shelves. Take Groneman's advice, add new flavour to your meat and be a champion with the tongs.

Andy my man, what are some of the biggest mistakes when it comes to firing up the barbie?

Planning. It's the key to success, and I tend to follow the KISS model – Keep It Simple, Stupid.

Be realistic. If you have 50 mates over for a game, then trying to grill 200 stuffed pepper poppers will only leave you slaving over the grill. Do something simple like a whole Boston butt roast. That way, you can pull it apart and allow guests to make self-service burgers.

Timing. Give yourself time to cook, rest and serve your meat. If you're doing something in volume where you have to constantly open and shut the cooker, you're just robbing heat from the chamber.

What are four basic tips?

1. Run a clean fire with dry well-seasoned wood or charcoal (no soaking chips or chunks in water).
2. Start it right using a chimney or log torch. Don't use lighter fluid.
3. Run a smaller fire to avoid it getting sooty or acrid.
4. Keep your pit closed. If you're looking – you ain't cooking.

Tell me a little about the Durango 24; it looks amazing...is it that good? And how the hell do you use it?

It's a truly amazing pit. Very versatile, and volume for days. You can cook completely indirect in the vertical chamber. Think amazing fish, sausages hung and cured belly for slab bacon. You can also smoke burgers and meatloaf for an extra dimension of flavour, or grill directly over the coal bed in the firebox.

As far as using it, I start with a hot bed of charcoal (2-3 lit chimneys) piled to the rear of the pit. Then I load about 1-2 splits of wood per hour, putting two in the front of the fire box to pre-heat. They will roll onto the fire and light immediately each hour. It keeps the horizontal body about 120° C.

What's the best technological gadget for barbequing?

The number one tool is a good instant thermometer. With products like the Thermopop, Thermo-couple based quick read units are inexpensive and a must.

There are also some very cool new devices that allow access to your cooking info via the internet. Fireboard has full cloud-based data logging of all your cooking sessions, meaning you can look at live data of your BBQ anywhere with an internet connection.

What is your perfect plate of BBQ food?

For me, it's all about the beef – burnt ends with a crispy outside and moist interim. And, if I'm down in your hemisphere, I'll go straight for the pulled Suffolk lamb shoulder. 🍖

WEAPON YOUR WINGS

Use Groneman's favourite wing recipe to give your wings a spicy kick!

INGREDIENTS

- 2kg fresh wings Brine
- 3.5 L water
- 2 cups dark brown sugar
- 1 cup soy sauce
- 1 cup maple syrup (or cane syrup)
- 3/4 cup sea salt
- 8-10 whole cloves garlic, peeled
- 6-8 whole bay leaves
- 3 large sprigs of thyme
- 2 teaspoons whole peppercorns
- 3/4 C Bourbon or Tenn. Whiskey

RUB

Good chile based rub (pick your favourite rub)

SAUCE

- 2 Parts honey:
- 1 part Sriracha:
- 1 part clarified butter

DIRECTIONS

1. Trim the tip off the wings and separate drum at the joint.
2. Allow chicken to soak in marinade for one hour.
3. Mix all ingredients of the dry rub in a large bowl or sealable bag. Add the wings and toss to coat evenly.
4. Set grill up with "indirect" treatment; leaving one side of grill open. Place wings on oiled grill grate over coals/fire, and cook for seven minutes.
5. Flip wings and repeat on reverse side. Skin should begin to crisp, and darken as rub caramelises.
6. Once wings reach your desired colour (some like darker than others), move to the open side of the grill.
7. Allow to cook for 15-20 more minutes, or until internal temperature is 75° C. (clear juices)
8. If you want a bite through skin, that is soft instead of crispy, place wings in a foil covered pan to finish.



HARDCORE COCKTAILS

WOMEN MAY WANT THEIR MEN TALL AND SLIM, BUT A REAL MAN'S DRINK SHOULD BE SHORT AND STRONG

THERE'S nothing worse than a cocktail list that doesn't specify the glasses. Tension mounts when you're scouring down the list, unsure if your beverage is going to come in a dainty martini glass or something a little more boisterous. Fear not, there are four staple cocktails that have stood the test of time and offer punchy alcohol, exquisite taste and most importantly; they all come served in a proper rocks glass. Cheers to that.

> Black Russian

Espresso martinis are taking over, but you can't forget where they stemmed from. Proportions are flexible depending on taste but for the vintage method, mix two parts Kahlua with double the vodka and ice. Use Sky Vodka to reach cloud nine.

> Old Fashioned

Nothing fancy but a fresh and sharp taste with the best ingredient for any cocktail – whisky. Combine two parts Jim Bean with three parts Angostura, sugar cubes, ice, cherry and orange peel. Adding soda water reduces the count of hairs on your chest, but it is an option.

> Godfather

A classic cocktail enjoyed since the 1970's. Modern brands such as Jack Daniel and Disaronno cause an epic infusion when combined with ice. Match two parts Jack with two parts of the Italian liquor, add ice and a twist of lemon. Strong, sweet, bliss.

> Tom Collins

Historically it's topped up with soda water and served in a long glass, but to the real men that's just called watering it down. Stick two part Bombay Sapphire with half a lemon, a teaspoon of sugar, ice and just a dash of soda water. **i**



GODFATHER

BLACK RUSSIAN



TOM COLLINS

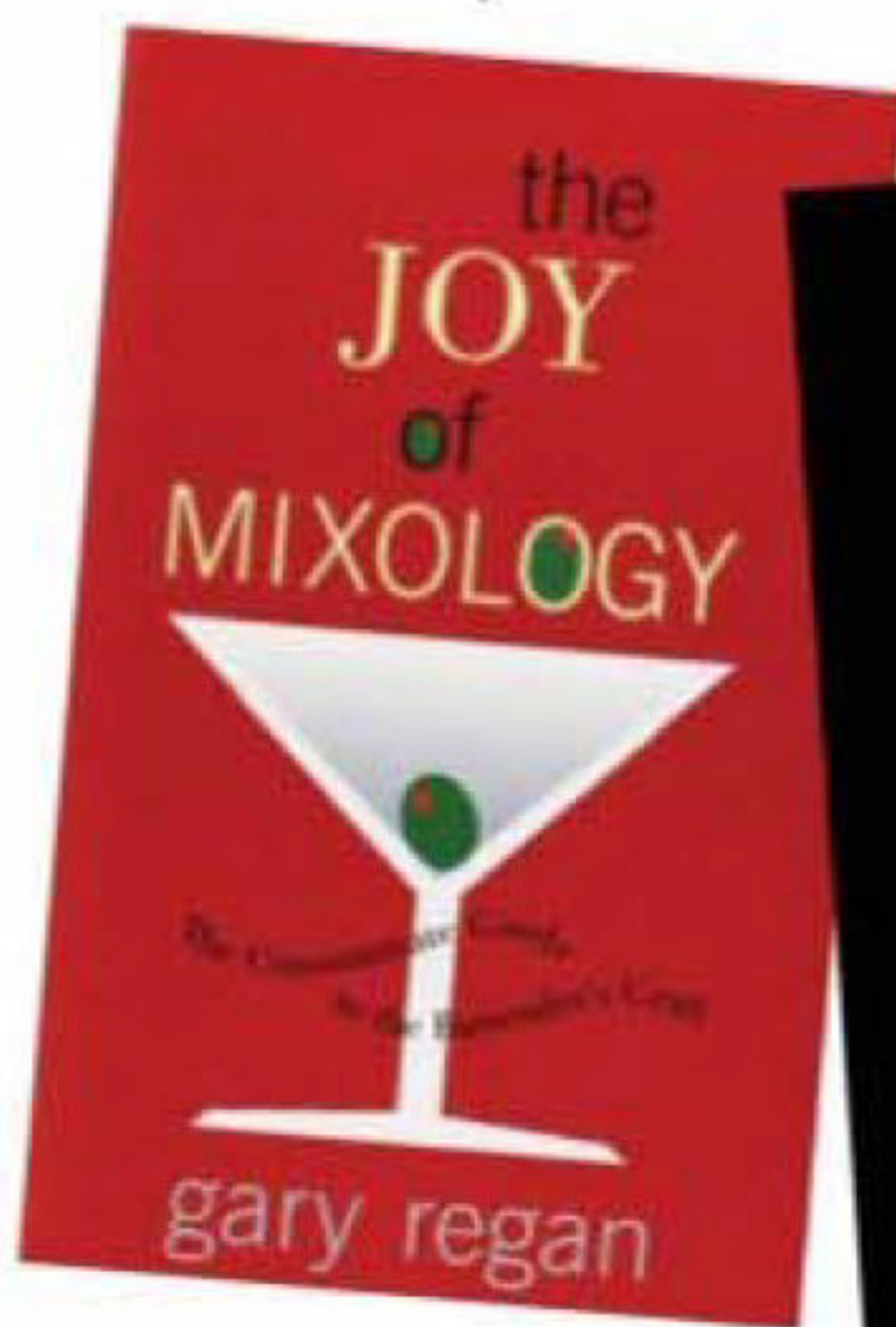


OLD FASHIONED

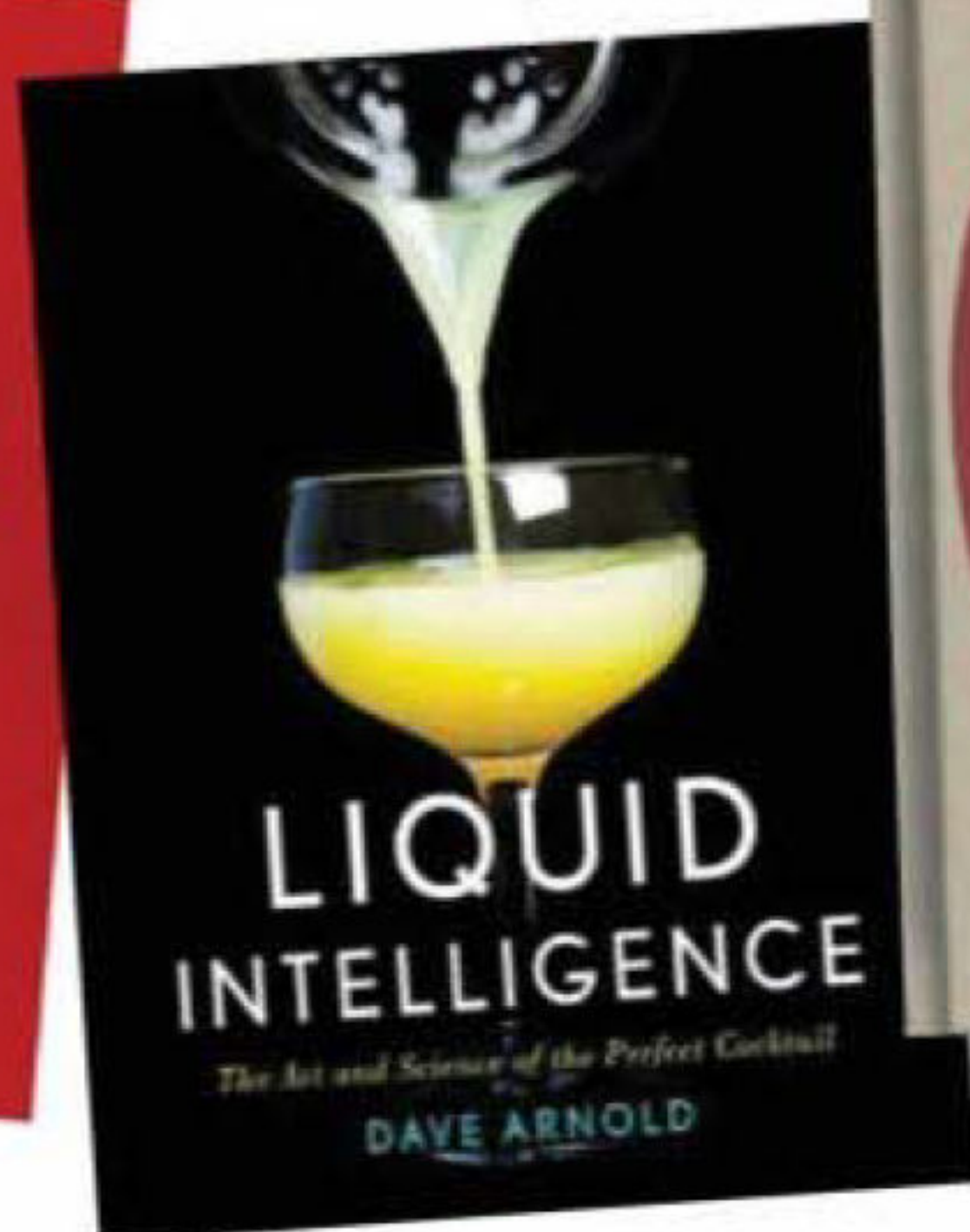
COCKTAIL SMART

PICK UP ONE OF THESE FIVE COCKTAILS BOOKS TO TAKE YOUR STIRRING AND SHAKING TO THE NEXT LEVEL

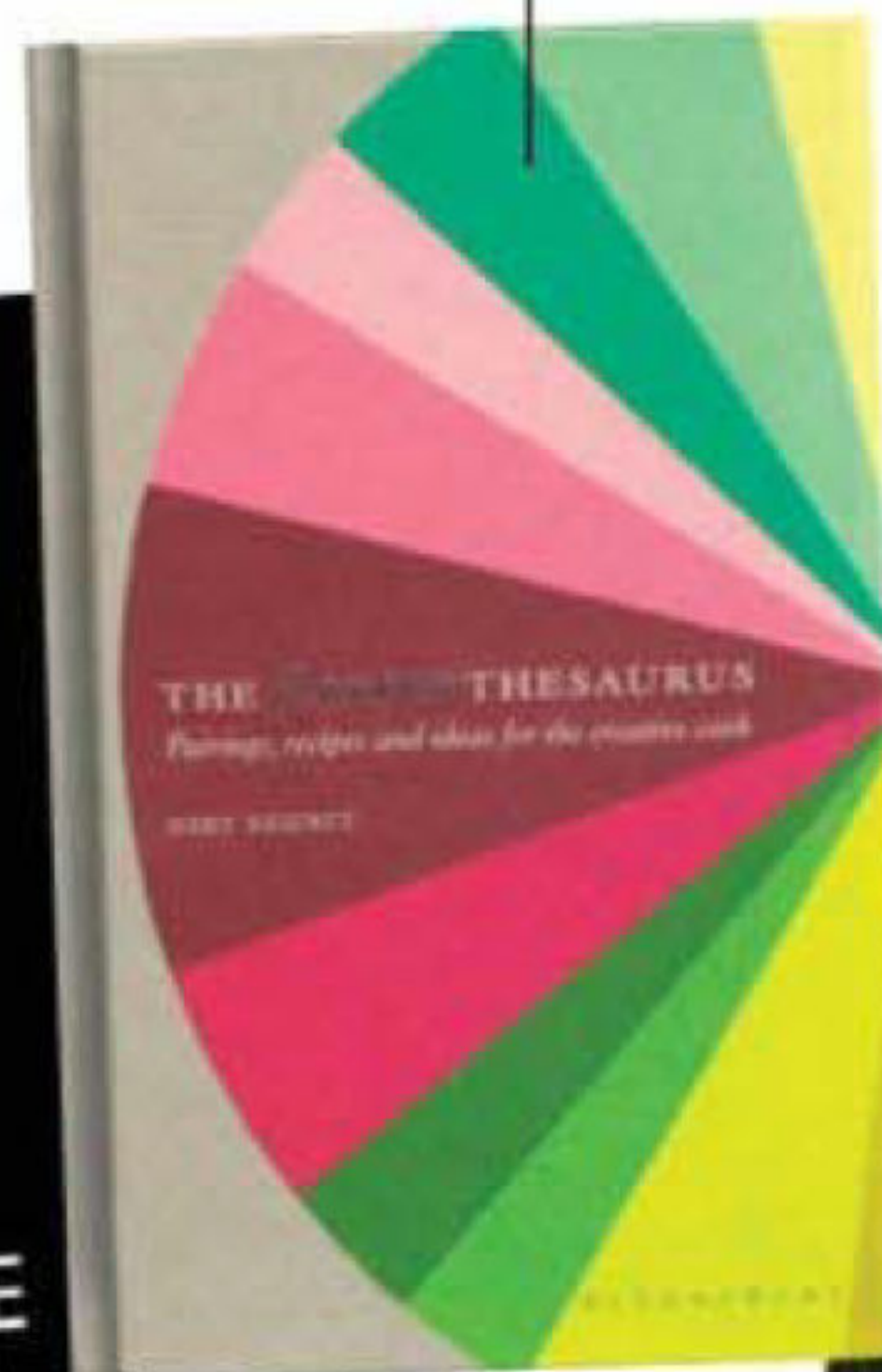
THE JOY OF MIXOLOGY
(GARY REGAN)



LIQUID INTELLIGENCE
(DAVE ARNOLD)



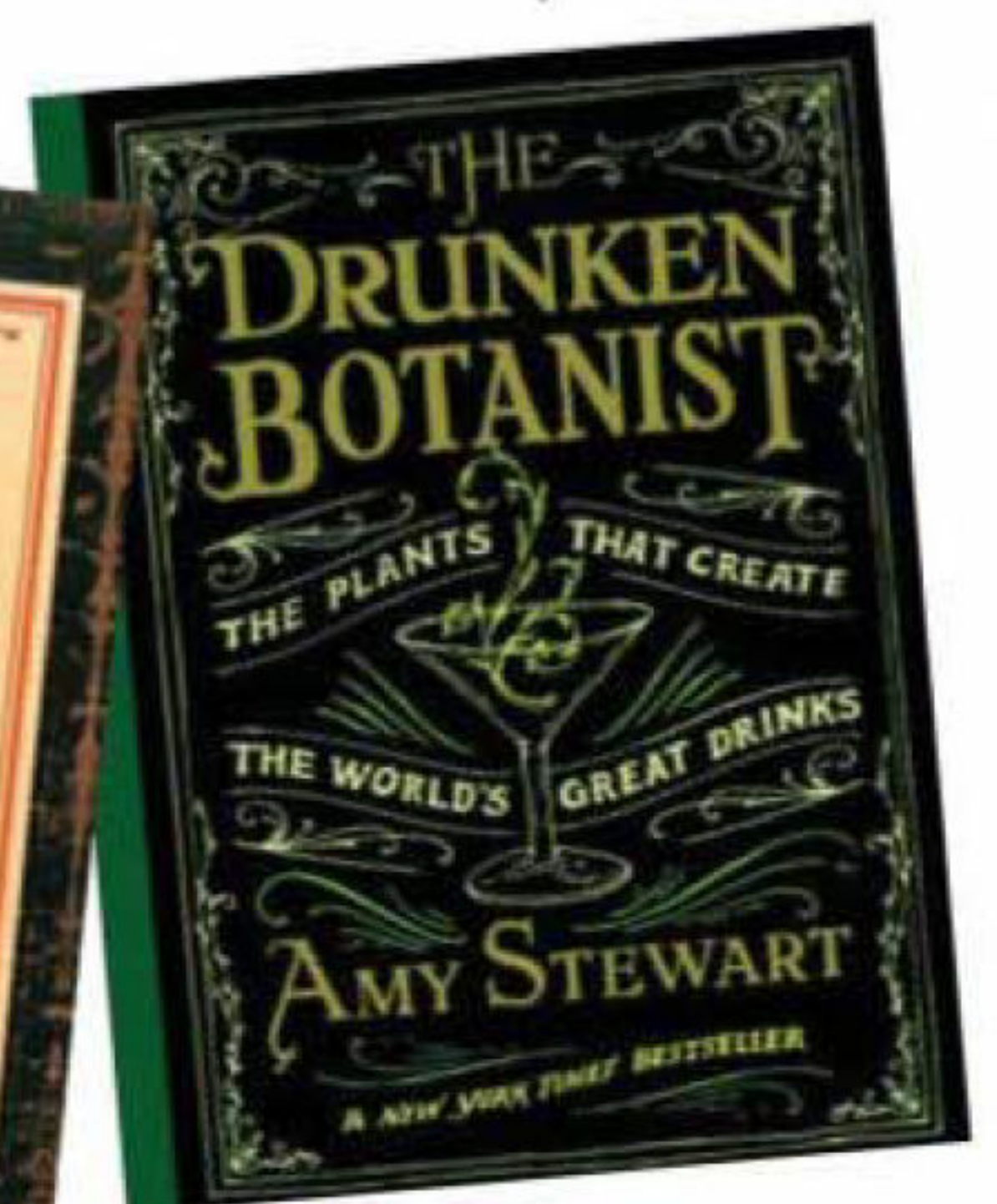
THE FLAVOUR THESAURUS
(NIKI SEGNI)



VINTAGE SPIRITS AND
FORGOTTEN COCKTAILS
(TED HAIGH)



THE DRUNKEN BOTANIST
(AMY STEWART)



HEALTH WATCH

TOP 5 HEALTH TRENDS FOR SUMMER

BOOST YOUR SUMMER HEALTH KICK WITH THESE INGREDIENTS

1 > EAT MORE FAT: That doesn't mean wolfing down endless amounts of fried chicken, but most men aren't getting enough good fats. Add avocado and almonds to your salad for a blood pressure lowering vitamin E boost.

2 > USE CACAO: What on earth is that? Well, it tastes just like chocolate and is packed full of antioxidants and magnesium to help your heart and brain. Scoop it into bland desserts or add it to anything dairy.

3 > EMBRACE COCONUT OIL: Use coconut oil in virtually everything you cook to improve cholesterol and stave off the risk of heart disease. Also give oil pulling a go. Swish a teaspoon of coconut oil around our mouth for 20 minutes to reduce plaque and boast a shiny white smile.

4 > ADD CINNAMON: The sweet spice is a sure way to fire up your metabolism. A small spoonful will aid fat loss and control insulin levels. Chuck a little in your black tea – it's a game changer.

5 > BE FIBRE SMART: Eating more fibre is one of the biggest health trends this summer. Eat fruit with edible skin, these fruits are the highest in fibre and will control blood sugar levels far better than any of the fad smoothies that are obliterated in a blender. **1**



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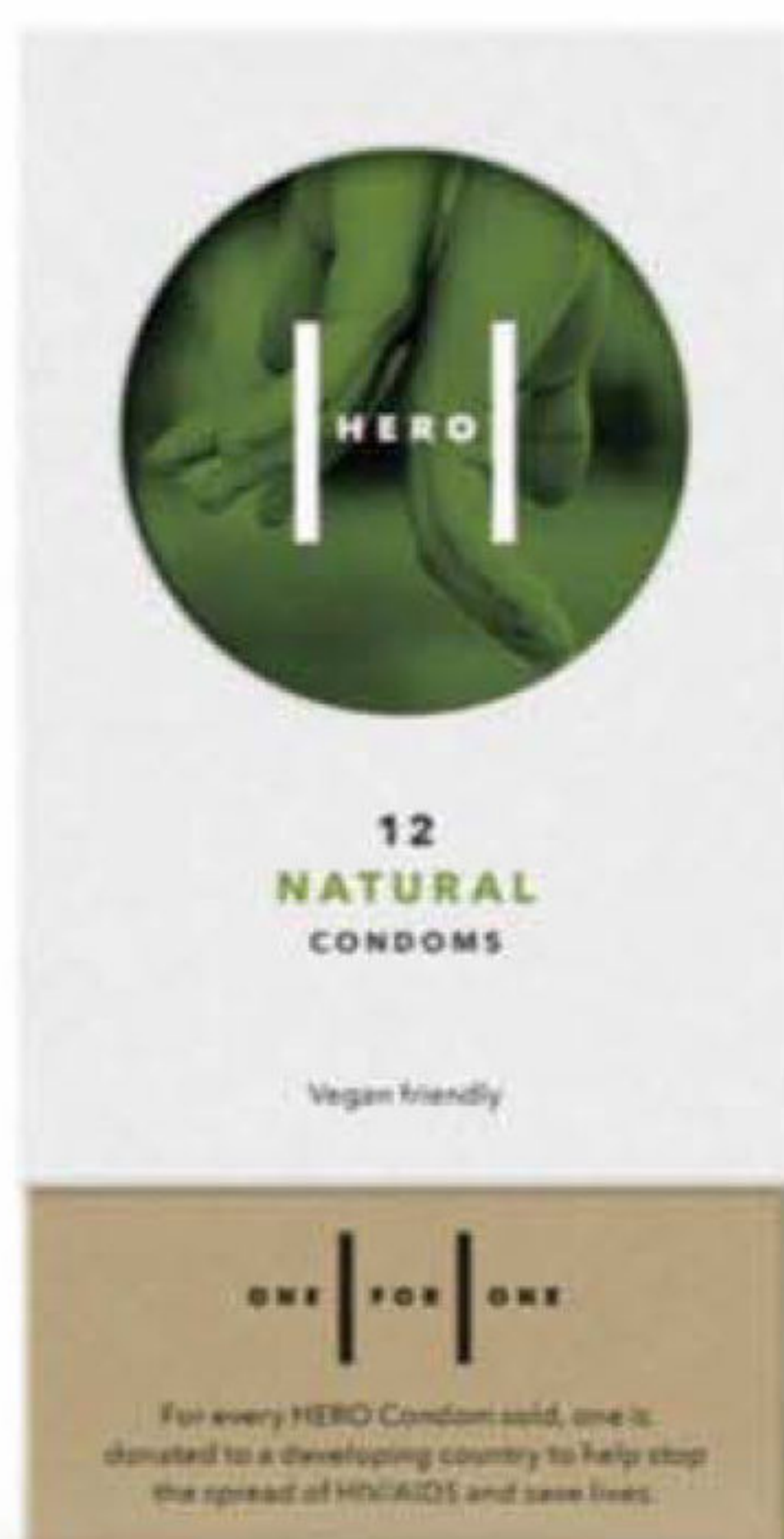
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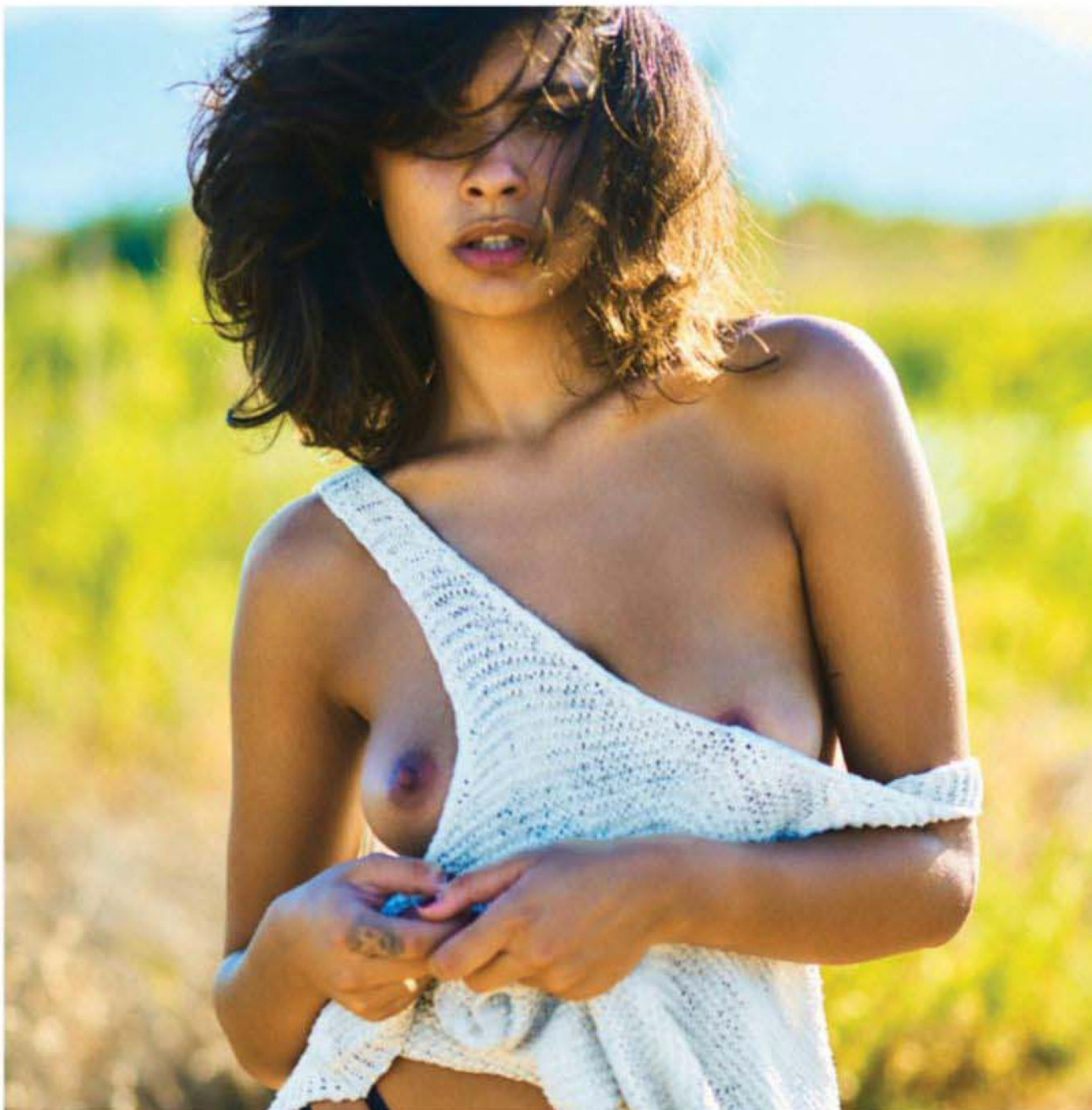
Woolworths  coles

*Survey comprised responses from over 1000 Australian women, ages 18-50. Survey was conducted by PureProfile in August 2015.



Natural Beauty

Photography: Edu Gómez Model : Mariam



WE spoke to the gorgeous Mariam and the talented Edu to get the low down on this fantastic Summer shoot. Here's what they had to say:

Tell us about the shoot.

Mariam: This shoot, like all of those I do with the fantastic Edu Gomez, was incredible.

Edu: Mariam is the kind of model I love to work with. Sexy, natural and willing to try everything to get a better shot. As she says, we make a good team shooting together, and anytime we work we really push it a bit harder, and we always love the results. For this photoshoot, as Mariam was travelling for a day to my city, we wanted to keep it really simple, focusing on the story of a nice and sexy sunset at the beach.

Any beaches you would recommend to an Aussie who wants to visit?

Mariam: I am in love with the beaches of Cadiz. They are always crystal clear, with very fine sand,

— undoubtedly the best landscapes in the south of Spain, where we live. The most beautiful and well-known are Bolonia, el Palmar and Zahara de los Atunes.

Edu: I have to agree with Mariam. And If you want to go scuba diving try La Herradura, too.

Where's your favourite place to hang out on a Saturday night?

Mariam: I don't mind going out to have fun, but if it's my choice, I would prefer to stay at home, watch movies and eat sweets.

Edu: I would start by going out to dinner. Maybe some tapas would be good, then some drinks at a place with cool music. After that, make a pit stop in a good club and finish in the morning with a nice breakfast. If you are ever in Malaga, you can try this route: Drunk'o'Rama for dinner, El Muro for the beers and music, Spectra to end the night. That would be a nice Saturday. 🍷



















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INFORMER

THE EAGLE HAS LANDED

NOBODY SAW TRUMP COMING. NOW AMERICA HAS THE
PRESIDENT IT DESERVES



PHOTO: BASTIAAN SLABBERSI

HOW DID HE DO IT?

THERE ARE FAR BIGGER FORCES BEHIND TRUMP'S VICTORY THAN RACISM AND BIGOTRY. **BY SEAN BRUCE**

BACK in October, in a somewhat prescient piece of journalism, James Hohmann, a national political editor at the *Washington Post*, wrote about how Trump was winning the hearts and minds of working and middle-class Americans.

He paints a vivid portrait of Middletown, Ohio – a small all-American, middle-class town situated firmly within the “Rust Belt” in the country’s Midwest.

While most of Washington’s elite found a Trump presidency a disquieting yet unlikely prospect, the residents of the steadily declining manufacturing heartland already had their minds made up. Most of the country, backed by reams of polling data, accepted that Clinton would likely win the White House, albeit by a modest margin.

In Middletown, Ohio, a different view of reality prevailed.

Cecil Graham, a machine operator at a box factory in Middletown, explains to Hohmann the resentment he felt for the Obama administration and his level of aversion towards a potential Clinton Presidency. “Everybody is worried about what their future is going to hold. I have no idea, but I do know Obama’s made it worse. And Hillary will make it worse.”

What Hohmann describes is a town in decay: boarded up store fronts, a defunct paper mill and a population of disgruntled machinists, welders and low-skilled workers, all of whom feel that the narrative thrust upon them by the media and the rest of America – of a modern, multicultural, globalised society – is at best of no value to them, and at worse a threat to their very existence.

On the 8th of November, the United States went to the polls and elected the person they wanted to see running the country for the next four years. In the days leading up to and on Election Day, Hillary Clinton stood quietly confident, along with the mainstream media and practically every political pundit in the world, ready to become the first female president of the United States of America. But in what will go down as one of the biggest political upsets in

recent history, the crown that she had worked so hard to wear was snatched, just as it was almost within her reach, by a small, orange hand.

Donald Trump ascending to the highest political office in America to become arguably the most powerful man in the world is only as shocking as the failure of the pundits, the media and the political and social elite to see it coming. The biggest question after it became clear that the Donald had secured victory was not, “What are we going to do?” but, “How did we get this so wrong?”

The day the election results were finalised, when it became clear that Trump not only won, but had handily defeated his opponent, political commentators were already trying to explain to themselves

and anyone who would listen how it was possible they had so gravely misread the political will of the American people.

Hillary supporters took to the streets in protest of their new president-elect, proclaiming along with large portions of the media that racism, bigotry and misogyny are not only alive and well in America but are the primary forces behind Donald Trump’s election.

Vox wrote the day after the election that “The message his [Trump’s] victory sent to nonwhites, Muslim Americans, immigrants, and their families is clear: Never underestimate the power of

racism and bigotry.” They argue Trump tapped into racial anxiety in America and “outright hate” fuelled his success.

The conviction that hatred was a key element of Trump’s victory echoed across Twitter as celebrities along with the “Twitterati” took to social media to vent their frustration at an election result that confirmed their worst fears about American culture. That Trump’s divisive rhetoric had successfully ignited the racist attitudes of millions of Americans.

American singer, songwriter and vocal Hillary Clinton supporter, Katy Perry tweeted, “Do not sit still. Do not weep. MOVE. We are not a nation that will let HATE lead us.”

Other Twitter users went slightly further in their assessment, directly accusing white racists of being responsible for Trump’s

**‘
RACISM IS NOT THE
REASON TRUMP WON,
NEITHER IS MISOGYNY,
BIGOTRY OR ANY OF THE
OTHER “-ISMS” BEING
THROWN AROUND
,**

win. Amongst a litany of online voices saying about the same thing, one user claimed, “If the majority of white people weren’t racist, Trump wouldn’t have been elected. Period.”

There is no doubt an element of truth in this. A minority of voters motivated by racism and bigotry would likely have cast their ballot in favour of Trump – whose policies involve deporting 11 million illegal Mexican migrants and potentially putting a ban on Muslim immigration. The notion that all Trump voters are racists or that bigotry is the primary cause of his sweeping victory of the electorate is incorrect, however, as it fails to recognise something more fundamental about Trump’s appeal.

And the answer lies in middle and working class America, in the rust belt, in poor communities of white voters, many of whom obviously feel abandoned by a Democratic Party that no longer represents the interests of the working class.

Particularly, Hillary Clinton’s failure to hold onto Michigan and Wisconsin, both which contain large populations of white, working class Democrats reveals a change in faith for poor white voters.

Michigan has voted Democrat since 1992 and Wisconsin since 1988. Barack Obama won both of those states in 2012 with a commanding lead over his opponent, Mitt Romney. This year, however, both have slipped from Democratic control, playing an instrumental role in Donald Trump’s victory.

In the early hours of the morning after the election, a group of political analysts from the *New York Times*, including Jim Rutenberg, Maggie Haberman and Nicholas Confessore joined Michael Barbaro to discuss why, despite the extensive polling, data collection, sophisticated modelling and modern technology, the media and political establishment not only missed the mark on election night, but completely missed the cultural climate developing around the country.

“What we now know is that a huge part of this country is far more upset about the ills he was pointing to and promising to fix than any of the flaws we were pointing out about him as a candidate,” says Rutenberg of the social discontent brewing in poor white communities of America’s Midwest.

One of the only experts to get it right and pick up on what was happening across America was Michael Moore, documentarian and native to Flint, Michigan. And he called it exactly how it went down. He predicted a large turnout of angry white voters from manufacturing towns who were enamoured with Trump’s promise to bring jobs back to the region by ripping up free trade deals that saw labour go offshore to places like Mexico and China.

Moore wrote in his “5 Reasons Why Trump Will Win” that “Angry, embittered working (and nonworking) people who were lied to by the trickle-down of Reagan and abandoned by Democrats” were excited by the prospect of throwing a grenade into the Washington establishment.

He accused Hillary Clinton of failing to ignite voters’ passions – that her unpopularity, untrustworthiness and message of incremental, modest change failed to bring people to the polling booths. “The enthusiasm just isn’t there. And because this election is going to come down to just one thing – who drags the most people out of the house and gets them to the polls – Trump right now is in the catbird seat.” He argued.

And he was correct.

Racism is not the reason Trump won, neither is misogyny, bigotry or any of the other “-isms” being thrown around in a desperate attempt to understand how a vast proportion of Americans could vote for somebody as arrogant, foolish and dangerous as Donald Trump. People are crying out for palpable change and Donald Trump – as inexperienced, ridiculous or just down right stupid as he may seem – offers that. The Democrats would have known this had they paid attention to their own primaries, in which a 74-year-old Jewish senator, self-proclaimed socialist and party outsider won 22 states and 47% of the vote. Instead, they rejected Sanders as an irregularity, and pushed their own candidate. Hillary Clinton, who had the support of the mainstream media, millions in campaign financing, the forceful backing of a highly popular sitting president, the endorsement of every high-profile Democrat and even a few notable supporters from the Republican Party – even with these forces frantically trying to push her over the line, she still couldn’t beat the orange moron from the apprentice. Why? Because nearly 70% of voters think she’s dishonest and untrustworthy. Because she represents the old way of politics. Because she offered no discernable change.

The numbers back this up – Donald Trump didn’t win the election – Hillary lost. The Democratic Party expected Hillary to mobilise women and minorities who were supposed to flock to the polling booths to elect the first female president.

They didn’t.

While overall, women supported Clinton over Trump by 54% to 42%, this is not dramatically different to what we saw in previous years. Furthermore, Hispanic and Black voters failed to support Hillary as they did Obama. While Hispanic voters favoured Clinton to Trump by 65% to 29%, she fell well below Obama’s 71% in 2012. To make matters worse for Clinton, Trump managed to increase his support of Hispanic voters compared to Romney in 2012 by a modest 2%. A similar story

is evident among black voters, with Hillary losing about 8% of the black voters that supported Obama in 2012 and Trump picking up a small 2% from Romney’s 2012 numbers. Compare this with Trump’s commanding win with white voters – particularly those without college education – and it’s easy to see how she lost.

What does all this equate to?

It means that Clinton and the Democratic Party failed to see what was going on all around them. They failed to take notice that people were fed up with policies that provided wealth to select pockets of the country while allowing many others to suffer. That while economic indicators were up, median family income in the U.S. is lower now than it was 16 years ago when adjusted for inflation. That globalisation had provided opportunities and prosperity for many, but these rewards were unevenly distributed. That amidst soaring CEO pay and bailouts for large financial intuitions, the average worker had been left behind.

Whether Trump delivers on his promise and brings manufacturing jobs back to America remains to be seen. One thing is for certain, the Democrats, just as with left wing parties in other parts of the world, will need to win back the faith of the working class. Or else suffer the grim reality that the Trump phenomenon becomes more common. ❶

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#HATE



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THE AGE OF TRUMP

WHY AMERICA GOT THE PRESIDENT IT DESERVES
BY BRENDAN O'NEILL

THE left's weird, wailing nervous breakdown over the election of Donald Trump has a delicious irony to it.

Because if they want to know who's responsible for putting this un-PC, blabber-mouthed agitator against immigrants and grabber of women's pussies in the White House, they should look in a mirror.

It was them.

It was their hateful and censorious politics. It was their writing-off of vast swathes of the population as idiot rednecks. It was their treatment of ordinary people as health problems to be corrected or bigots to be re-educated. It was their branding of those who don't think like them as "low-information white people", in the words of one American professor, which is just a fancier way of saying "untermenschen": the underclass.

It was all of that, all that defamation and demonization, which led people to think: "We've had enough."

People turned to Trump, not because they love him, but as a kind of human hand grenade to be hurled at a political and cultural establishment that has been treating them like infants for too long.

So stop your sobbing, liberals and establishment people, and wake up to the fact that when you treat people terribly, they'll turn away from you and look to someone else. That's basic human nature. It's self-respect.

The meltdown over Trump's election has been extraordinary.

There have been raging protests. One protester held a placard saying, "Your vote was a hate crime", confirming that so-called progressives have no intention of changing their ways post-Trump and will not stop labelling people who disagree with them as "hateful" or "phobic" or "deniers".

American college campuses have been beset by trauma. Some universities have cancelled exams to give distressed Trump-hating students a chance to recover from this horror. Others are offering their students counselling.

This is bonkers, but it's great too because it sums up why Trump won. It is precisely stuff like this, this self-infantilising politics of the "safe space" where well-bred young people insist on being cushioned from the gruff views of the less PC, which has agitated so many Americans in recent years. People feel it isn't in keeping with America's robust, freedom-loving spirit, and Trump has benefitted enormously from this

instinctive dislike of PC BS.

Then there's been the press coverage. The global media is aghast. How could dumb, gun-owning, non-Hillary-supporting American people do this to us, wail newspapers around the world?

With his itchy, tweeting fingers on the nuclear button, and his penchant for "denying" climate change, Trump could bring about the apocalypse, hacks say.

It's hilarious: they accuse Trump supporters of falling for the politics of fear and behaving emotionally, yet they bang on about the end of the world and basically cry all day long. Who's really unreasoned?

These sobbing politicians don't realise they are the unwitting midwives of the Age of Trump.

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For years now, in the EU, the US and Aus, a new elite – a technocratic, paternalistic elite – has styled itself the guardian of morality and remaker of the little people's minds and lives.

Politics has turned its attention from big economic and social matters, like ensuring everyone has a job and not bossing people about too much, in favour of managing people's everyday lives. The British Labour Party calls this "the politics of behaviour". Orwellian much?

Working-class people have been reimagined as problems to be resolved – in the American case as dumb, Bible-bashing weirdos to be

either laughed at or subjected to state meddling.

People in the American South and the Rust Belt have been the butt of every liberals' joke. Their way of life has been mocked. Their culture is undermined. And on top of this, many have lost their jobs and homes since the 2008 crash.

They've been economically and culturally demeaned. Robbed of their livelihoods, their sense of self. And we wonder why they're angry? We wonder why, when Trump comes along and says PC is nonsense, and the elites are bastards, they think he's a more attractive prospect than dull, establishment Hillary.

I'm not pro-Trump. I oppose his policies. Yet the Trump surge makes sense to me. I understand why it happened. What I don't understand is how a political class that has spent so long looking down its long nose at the less well-off, the different, the rural and the old can be surprised when those people turn around and say: "You know what? Fuck you." 



THE KINGPIN OF CRACK: “FREEWAY” RICKY ROSS

WILL THE REAL RICK ROSS PLEASE STAND UP? **BY SETH FERRANTI**

AS a drug lord in South Central, Los Angeles in the mid-80s, Freeway Ricky Ross earned hundreds of millions of dollars by franchising crack outlets like McDonalds – becoming one of America’s biggest and most infamous drug dealers in the process. Freeway’s budding collegiate tennis career was cut short due to his inability to read, which led to him diving headfirst into the drug trade. When he first started selling cocaine, a kilo cost upwards of \$45K US, but with the Colombian Cartels pumping tonnes of yayo into L.A., the wholesale price dropped to

Blandon, was a Nicaraguan drug trafficker raising money for the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), a Contra group sponsored by the CIA. San Jose journalist, Gary Webb documented this story in his groundbreaking book, *Dark Alliance* – the release of which would ultimately lead to his mysterious death.

After serving multiple stints in federal prison as a result of his misadventures in the drug game, Freeway got the life sentence the feds gave him overturned on entrapment and police corruption issues. Out in the world now and still hustling, but

“AT THE HEIGHT OF MY CAREER I WAS DOING 100 KEYS A DAY, SOME DAYS I DID 200 KEYS – SO YOU FIGURE AT \$15,000 A KILO THAT’S A MILLION FIVE, AND THEN THERE’D BE DAYS THAT I TOOK IN THREE MILLION AND SOME CHANGE”

\$10k. Enabling hustlers like Freeway, to not only flood the City of Angels but to ship the cocaine out-of-state, through the Crips and Bloods street gangs, jumpstarting the Reagan era, nationwide crack epidemic.

From the ghettos of South Central, Freeway Ricky Ross oversaw an empire that generated \$3 million a day at its height. His ascension to L.A.’s most prominent crack kingpin had a catch to it, though. Unwittingly, Freeway was used as a CIA pawn, playing in the Iran-Contra, a game far larger than himself. His cocaine supplier, Oscar Danilo

legitimately this time, Freeway is a pop culture legend. Since 2009, he’s been crisscrossing the country doing book signings to promote his novel, *Freeway Rick Ross: The Untold Autobiography* and t-shirt line, “The Real Rick Ross is NOT a Rapper”. The self-proclaimed “Mayor of the Ghetto” even had his documentary, *A Crack in the System*, nominated for an Emmy. Despite losing his battle to stop the rapper Rick Ross from using his name and flaunting his former lifestyle in his rhymes, and a Spring 2016 traffic stop in Northern California, where cops confiscated

\$100K US in cash, things are looking up for the former L.A. crack king. *Penthouse* sat down for a chat with the gangster legend to take it all in.

PENTHOUSE: You were making three million dollars a day at your height, that's insane. How did you reach that status in the drug game and how did you manage a multimillion dollar cash business like that back in the 80s?

FREEWAY RICKY ROSS: When I first started in the drug business, I didn't know what cocaine looked like. I didn't know what it smelled like. I didn't know the colour, and I didn't know how to weigh it. I didn't know anything, but I had a desire to be Superfly. From that desire came everything else – the wisdom, the knowledge and the experience. I got to the point where I could look at a kilo and tell if it was short. I could tell by smelling it if the coke was good or not. I learned how much a kilo sold for in different parts of the country. I'd just go through there and find the guy that was pushing the weight and make him an offer he couldn't refuse.

I never wanted my guys to get caught

financed a record company and took care of my family. To me, it's all about helping your family out. I didn't get into the drug business to floss and stunt. I got into the drug business because I couldn't get a job. I was uneducated. I couldn't read. I didn't have any skills other than tennis. Tennis was the best skill that I had, and after that door was slammed on me, I was looking for another way to get out the ghetto.

You eventually left L.A. because it got too hot with the Freeway Ricky Ross Task Force gunning for you. The police eventually caught you for the first time in Cincinnati, but due to corrupt cops in L.A., you were able to get out of a life sentence, right?

I would have probably got a life sentence from that case as well, but what happened is that they had the crooked cops. It's funny how it worked out. When Cincinnati started investigating me, they called L.A. and L.A. said: "If you're investigating Ricky Ross, you've got to talk to the sheriff of the Freeway Ricky Ross Taskforce." Little known to Cincinnati was that these

raid them and say they found half-a-key in the house. But we never kept half-a-key in any house. I'd get on my guys and be like what are you doing? Bringing other people's dope into my house? But my guys would be like, "Nah – there was nothing in the house". We were sold-out when they came. Some guys would be like, "Man, I flushed everything down the toilet, but the cops found drugs."

It kept happening to too many people, so we figured out that the cops were planting drugs. I went to my lawyer, and he showed me how to hire an investigator to investigate the cops. I hired an investigator. He went around and dug up all the dirt on the police – that they were beating people, planting drugs and guns. Eventually, when the cops got me indicted, I also got them indicted. Fair is fair.

When you got out you hooked back up with Oscar Danilo Bandon, your cocaine connection, except this time he wasn't selling drugs for the CIA anymore, he was trying to set you up and get you back in prison?

Danilo called me almost the same day I got out, saying he wanted to see me, that he wanted to help me. I'm thinking about what I always heard about the game – keep your mouth shut when you go to jail, and your people will help you get back on your feet when you get out. I'm doing badly – my money is low and I'm figuring that he's out to help me. But he was recording the whole conversation, trying to set me up.

I thought I had a slam dunk case because you can hear him pulling me in on the tapes and you can also hear me saying, "I ain't doing nothing, I don't know nobody, I just got out of prison." But as far as entrapment goes, that doesn't matter because they can target you, even if you're not selling drugs you can be a target. This means they can come persuade you to do a dope deal if they think that you have some type of connections in the drug business. I was never fronted a hundred kilos in my life. That's a million dollars' worth of drugs. Before, I'd always paid cash, but now he wants to front it to me. It was a set up the whole way.

After Danilo set you up you got a life sentence, and as you're sitting in prison, knowing that you're there under dubious circumstances since the government entrapped you, you start researching your case to get back in court...

I'm in prison. My lawyer doesn't think I'm

"WE FIGURED OUT THAT THE COPS WERE PLANTING DRUGS. I WENT TO MY LAWYER, AND HE SHOWED ME HOW TO HIRE AN INVESTIGATOR TO INVESTIGATE THE COPS"

with a lot of drugs, so I set up a system. I knew that the less drugs they got caught with, the better it was in court. They'd get less time, it was easier to get a lawyer to win their case, and the police wouldn't be as concerned with really hammering them. What I did was I'd only have my guys take maybe two ounces at a time to certain houses, and then I'd have another guy that would go by and every 15 to 20 minutes, pick up the cash and resupply them. At the height of my career I was doing 100 keys a day, some days I did 200 keys – so you figure at \$15,000 a kilo that's a million five, and then there'd be days that I took in three million and some change.

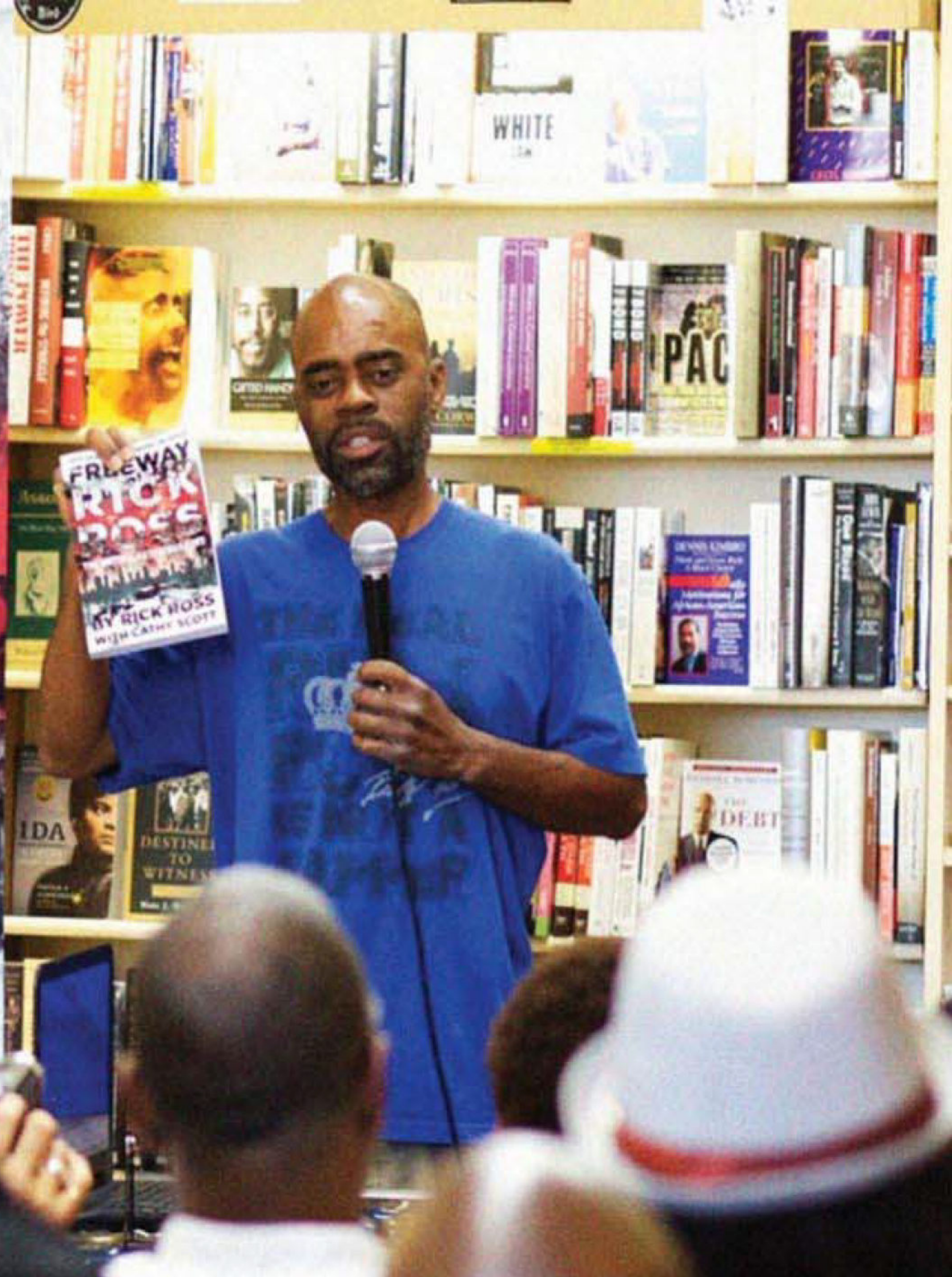
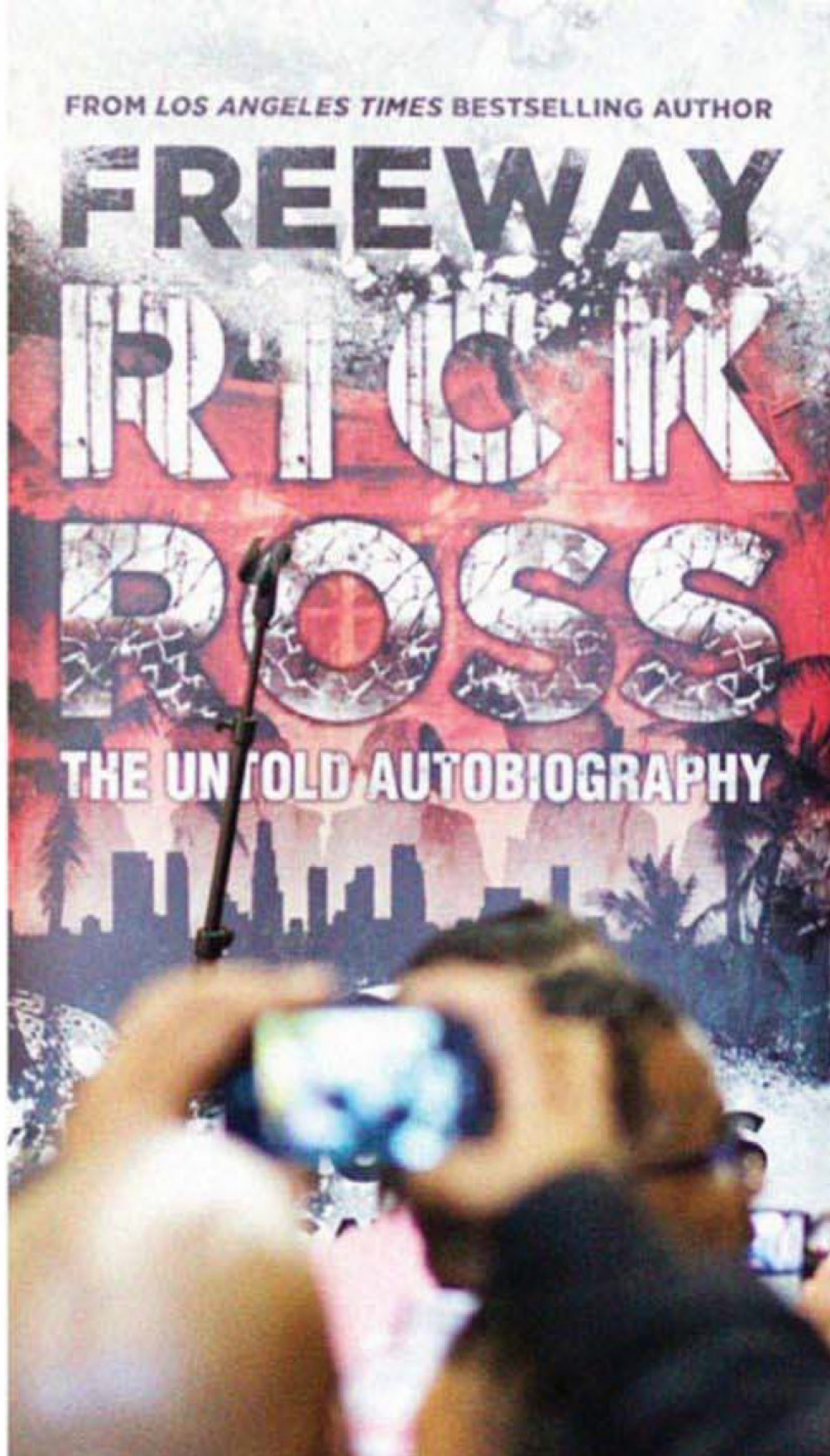
With all that illegitimate cash around, what did you invest your money in? Were you trying to go legit?

I owned a motel, and I was in the process of building like three more. I owned body shops, custom tires and wheels shop, a junkyard. I owned about 30 houses at one time and a few apartment buildings. I

cops were all corrupt. I had a RICO Act [Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organisations Act, a United States Federal law designed to deal out large penalties to those involved in organised crime] case in Los Angeles, but that indictment was squashed behind those corrupt cops. L.A. didn't want to have anything to do with it, but Cincinnati, along with Texas, felt that they'd rather take me to trial and let me lose then squash their indictment. Cincinnati ended up giving me a sweetheart deal – 10 years, and if L.A. indicted the cops and I testified against them, they'd drop it down to five years, so that's what happened with that first case.

This was before the Rampart scandal shocked the nation in the late 90s. Nobody knew what was going on out there corruption-wise, but you knew firsthand what LA cops were capable of...

There would be a certain amount of drugs in particular houses, and the cops would



ever going to get out again. I just won a lawsuit from the cops for letting a dog bite me up while I was handcuffed. I had \$60,000. My lawyer told me to take the \$60,000 and put it on my commissary because I had a long time to do. He thought I was never getting out. When you have a life sentence, people bury you. But I didn't give up. I started researching my case.

Basically, I had to teach myself to read. My cellmate and another convict helped me. They spent all their time helping me learn how to read so I could fight my case. I started reading the newspaper first. It went from the newspaper to law books to eventually finding the issue that got me out. I studied entrapment all day and all night and finally got my sentence down to 20 years. When the crack amendments passed, I got out.

You've lived the life that gangsta rappers and Hollywood movies portray. What has being a drug dealer taught you about succeeding in business and about life in general?

If you can be a drug dealer, you can do

anything. I mean, you take a guy like Bill Gates. If they told Bill Gates tomorrow that if he kept Microsoft open, he would go to prison, he would quit. But drug dealers know that they can go to jail, and they don't quit – they keep dealing, they keep dealing and they keep dealing until they actually go to prison. So when you have to live under those types of pressures – you know, when I sold cocaine every day, I knew that could be the day they kick my door in. Or that could be the day that I walk out of my house, and some guys are in my bushes trying to rob me, or the day that I might have to shoot somebody because I used to have my pistol in my pocket too. Sometimes I had to wear bulletproof vests. So when you're living under those types of circumstances – there's a lot of pressure – a lot of pressure that most businesses don't go through.

You've been touring the country to promote your autobiography, your t-shirt line and talk to young people and show them the errors of your ways. What can people learn by reading your book or listening to you talk at

your public speaking appearances?

I've been selling my book. It's doing well. My goal is to sell a million copies, hand to hand. My t-shirts are doing well. I've got some new designs I'm getting ready to come out with, some of them are going to be marijuana related with marijuana sayings on them. I'm enjoying different avenues and different aspects of business. I'm still doing my motivational speaking, even though it slowed down after my arrest up in Northern California.

I hope that I can continue to have success. I'm going to continue to work hard and learn as much as I can and teach as many people as I can, and hopefully, more people will pick up my book. One school teacher in Detroit told me that they need to have my book in every school because it's anti-gangs. That's what she got out of it. And different people have been getting different things. I'm just excited that I'm experiencing the success that I am. I was nominated for an Emmy award for my documentary, *A Crack in the System*. I'm working on a couple of TV series and shooting some documentaries. Just grinding and enjoying life. 📌



BAC GUAI

CHINATOWN'S

WHITE DEVIL

THE STORY OF THE WHITE, IRISH-CATHOLIC KID
FROM BOSTON WHO GREW UP TO BECOME ONE
OF THE MOST FEARED MAFIA KINGPINS IN
CHINATOWN. **BY SETH FERRANTI**

JOHN Willis grew up in the working-class neighbourhood of Dorchester, Massachusetts playing hockey like the rest of the Catholic kids, before transcending race and becoming one of the most notorious gangsters in Boston's Chinatown. They called the big, crazy, white Irish kid, Bac Guai, which translates to White Devil. From a homeless kid to second-in-command of a Chinese gang, Willis worked himself up through the ranks of *Ping On*, one of the most violent Chinese gangs in Boston. After paying his dues by going to prison for the gang, Willis reinvented himself as an Oxycontin kingpin. Capitalising on the opioid craze that swept the nation in the early 2000s – generating millions of dollars for himself by the late aughts before getting busted by the feds in 2011.

"At seventeen, eighteen, there's nothing anyone could tell me," Willis tells *Penthouse*. "I was angry at the world. I was gonna do what I was gonna do, and that's it. My mother died when I was a kid, my father left when I was three. The people who raised me were from another world. This was about the struggle of not having parents, the struggle of having to prove yourself on a daily basis, to learn a new culture. I think Boston's Chinatown is a small Chinatown, but I think it's a close-knit community. There would be different factions of people that we might have problems with, but it's not like you're a Blood or a Crip, it's an organisation."

Ping On came to power in Boston's Chinatown in the 1970s. Founded by Stephen "Sky Dragon" Tse, a Chinese national affiliated with 14K, an influential mainland China Triad where new members drank their own blood mixed with the blood of a beheaded chicken as a part of the initiation ritual. In the 1980s and 90s, *Ping On* was the fiercest gang in Chinatown, wreaking wanton havoc wherever they went. Sky Dragon ran his illicit gangland empire from the Kung Fu restaurant on Tyler Street, playing the role of "Dai Lo" or big brother of the gang.

"I think he liked me because I was white, I was bigger," Willis says. "He felt it was a novelty to have a white guy who could speak broken Chinese and have someone who didn't typically grow up [in Chinatown]. My story is different from others, not

saying that I'm better or worse, it's just the way that I lived [that let me] assimilate into a culture where they didn't accept [outsiders]. When I was young, you didn't go to Chinatown – you didn't belong there if you weren't Chinese."

But in Chinatown, they treated Willis like a brother or a son. The gangsters gave him money, clothes and a place to live. More importantly, they let the troubled young man become part of something that was bigger than him. The tongs [powerful gangster organisations based in China] and the gangs that supported their criminal activity have been part of Chinese culture for thousands of years. Willis embraced his adopted culture and learned to speak the language fluently, opening up doors for him in the gang.

"When I spoke Chinese, I spoke with a Chinese accent," Willis says. "People respected me, people talked to me and treated me well because of [that]. I advanced through the ranks from being a kid and knowing nothing, to knowing ten words of Chinese, to speaking fluent Chinese, to basically having my own group of people, my group of guys. I wasn't asking for money anymore, [I was] giving money back."

During his formative years in the gang, a young John Willis was literally dodging bullets as he played bodyguard for the gang's overlords. Chinatown erupted in violence, between 1988 and 1992, resulting in two-dozen gangland slayings. In January 1991, the gangland violence reached a crescendo with the gory Tyler Street Massacre, where gunmen executed five people in an after-hours gambling den run by the *Ping On* organisation. Within six minutes of arrival, the shooters killed six of the seven men in the Tyler Street basement, execution-style, one by one as they begged for mercy.

"It was a very violent Chinatown," Willis says. "There were a lot of murders, a lot of stabbings, a lot of gunfights. You had to be aware of your surroundings, because if you weren't, then you'd end up dead. We had radios just like the police. We had different protocols. You were here from a certain time to a certain time, and then other guys would show up, and it was almost like punching a clock. This is your job today. You stay in the parking lot, park the cars. If you have a problem with the guys from New York, you're watching for the New York plates."

Shortly after the Tyler Street killings a crew of gunmen pulled up and shot a *Ping On* associate standing right next to Willis while they were out collecting money. When the gunman pointed the pistol at Willis and pulled the trigger, the gun jammed.

With the killing spiralling out of control, Sky Dragon took off for Hong Kong, leaving his gang to take care of his business interests. The street warfare intensified and *Ping On* continued to operate, fighting to gain control of Chinatown.

"At that time, different things were going on [in Chinatown]," Willis says. "Power struggles, fights, murders – the building of an organisation. It went full battle mode. You're scared, but you're not scared." Under Willis' direction, gang members would track down rivals and brutally beat them down. When asked about participating in any murders or gangland hits, Willis says, "I've never been convicted of killing anybody."

As Willis proved his loyalty and advanced in the organisation, he'd

be farmed out to affiliated Chinese gangs in different cities. This tactic worked both ways. When the drama got thick, his boss would call in guys from California or New York to handle things. If there was a situation in New York, higher-ups might send him down there to take care of it. A lot of the gangs were connected through the tongs back in China, and the American-based organisations used their soldiers interchangeably.

"When I went to New York City or San Francisco, or somewhere, and I got there, these people didn't look at me like 'Hey, he's a white guy', they looked at me like 'Hey that's John. He's from Boston. He's our people,'" Willis says. "They looked out for me. So I always kinda keep that in mind. I'm white, but I look after the Asian guys. Let's face it: they're not big people, it's not like they're running [things] – especially if they're not gangsters." Even though John was white, he felt safe within the confines of his new adopted culture, despite the violence and dangers that surrounded him.

"You learn through the culture you grow up in, and whatever comes out of that, you take care of your people, your brothers, your family," Willis tells *Penthouse*. "That's how I came up. At that time in my life, it was more about learning the culture and dealing with my people. I'm the type of guy that if you're my brother, you're my brother."

But with all the heat the feds were doing a lot of surveillance in Chinatown.

"The feds would just sit there all day. They'd switch, different guys would come in, they weren't fooling anybody. We knew. One kid's job would be to keep an eye on them, where are they, or who are they, what are they doing? They'd follow us back to Chinatown. They'd park on the edge of Chinatown, over near the gate. We went about our daily business. We knew they were there. They knew we were here." Eventually, things started to change in Chinatown, and after several short bids in state prison, Willis decided to branch out from the gang.

"Times change, people start telling. And the culture was not what it used

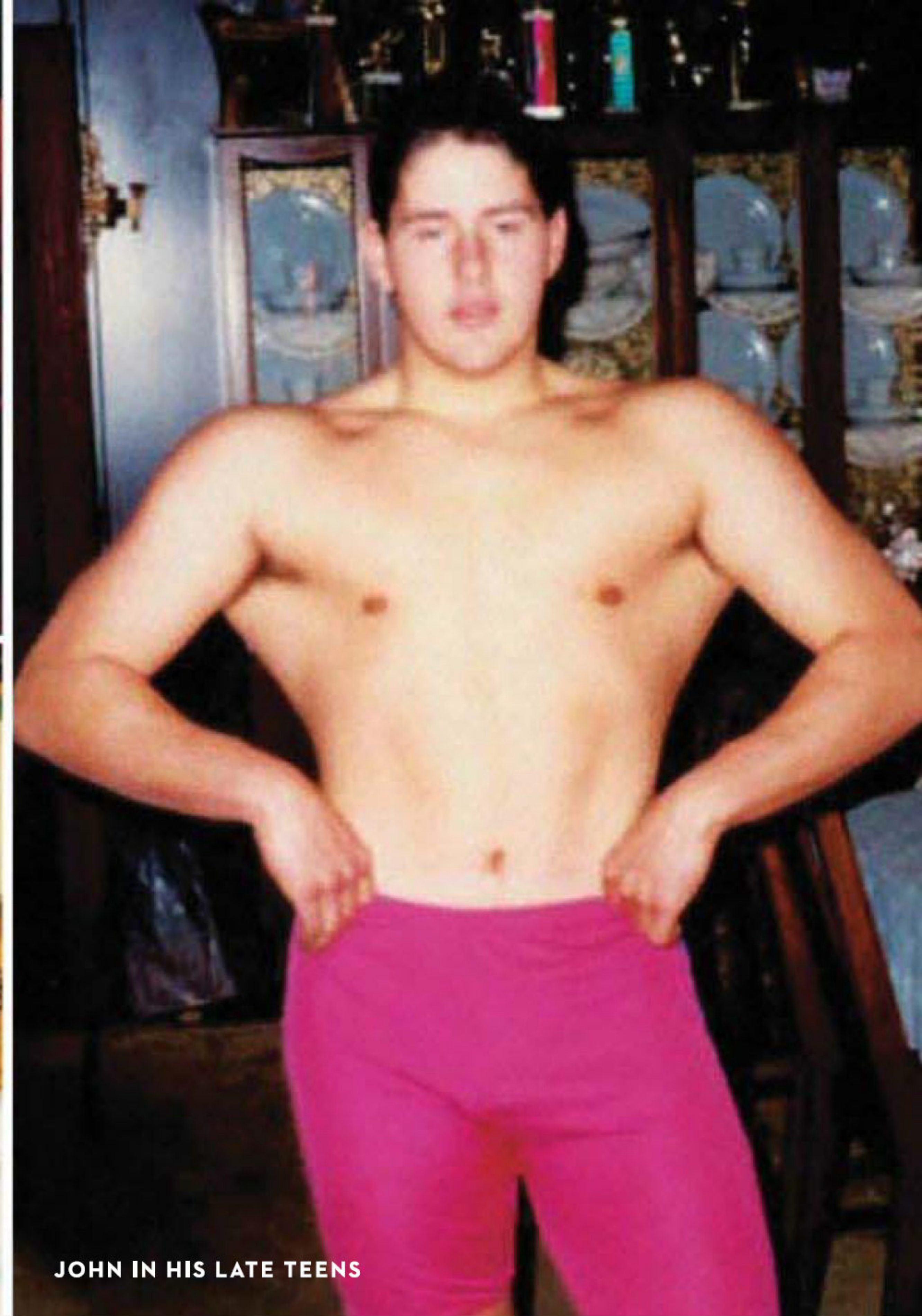
to be, because they got away from the way things were supposed to be," Willis says. "From China, there was a pecking order. People started complaining so much about gangsters being on the streets that they lost sight of the protection gangsters provided. [People] walking around with all their money to the gambling houses, the old ladies with their food and their purses.

"As far as the drug side of things, I didn't do that in Chinatown. My boss never wanted to sell drugs. He'd tell you straight up, 'Don't sell drugs, brings too many problems,' and that's the way it was when I was a kid. I just followed what he said, but then I got older, I stepped outside, and did what I needed to make money."

US Attorney Timothy Moran called John Willis "the kingpin, organiser and leader of a vast conspiracy." The feds said Bac Guai parlayed his Asian mob contacts into a position as an oxycontin kingpin that sold over 260,000 pills in two years, generating over \$4 million dollars in profits, trafficking pills from Florida to the Northeast. Willis used the cash he made to buy a fleet of sports cars, oceanfront property in South Florida, speedboats and strip clubs.

"The money was really good and I was young. I started selling drugs when I was 22-years-old," Willis says. "22 years old buying houses, cars and boats. The money influenced my decisions. I never

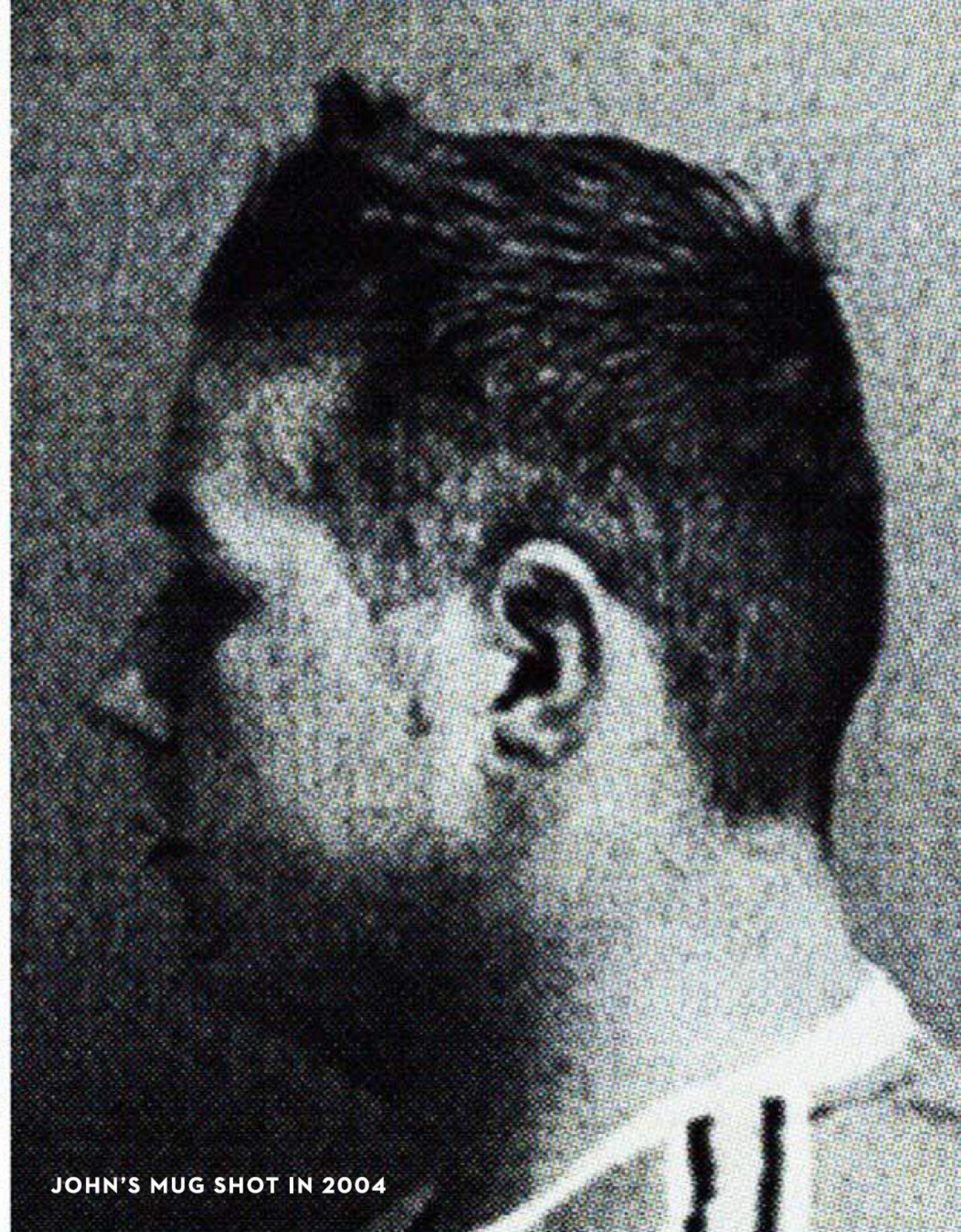
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**WILLIS WORKED
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IN BOSTON**
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JOHN IN HIS LATE TEENS

JOHN WILLIS STANDING WITH A GROUP OF FRIENDS IN PRISON IN CUMBERLAND, MARYLAND

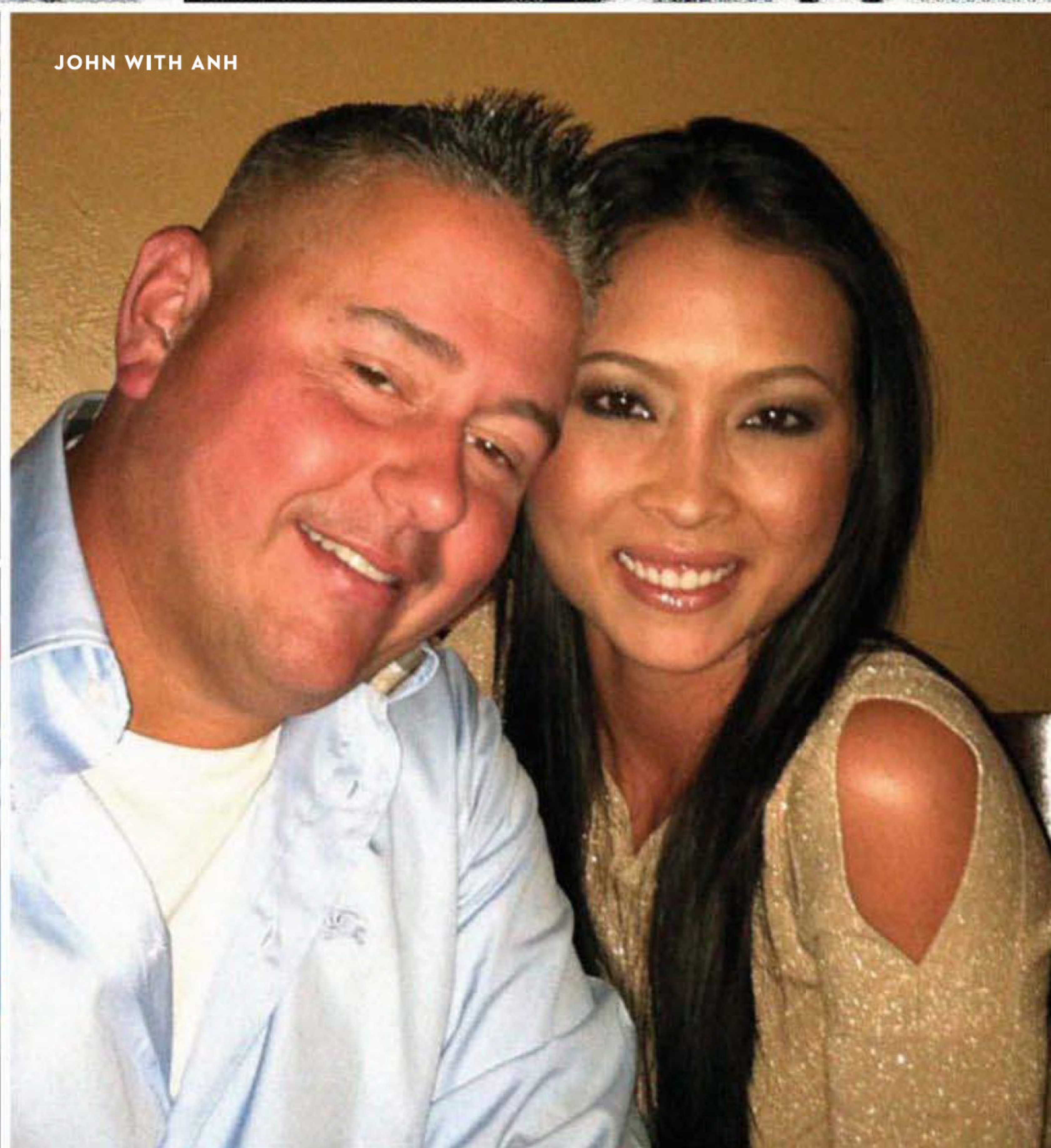




JOHN'S MUG SHOT IN 2004



OXYCODONE HIDDEN IN AN A-Z VITAMIN BOTTLE



JOHN WITH ANH

did it in Chinatown. Never did it around any of my people. You invest money – you do different things. Do you want to get involved with importing thousands of pounds from Canada? Or do you wanna get in hundreds of pounds from California? Or do you wanna do pills? Is it drugs or prostitution? [I had] different investments.”

Willis kept his ear to the streets as a drug dealer. “What’s going on in the streets? What does the street want?” He says. “The street wants pills, you go and get the pills. At one point, it was commercial marijuana. Then it went to British Columbia and then it went to the high-end stuff out of California. So you change it with the times, you roll with it. We all work to make money, we all work to survive, we all look for a better life. We all become slaves to our money. Even multi-multi-millionaires, they live a certain way and then if they don’t keep that income up, they go bankrupt and fail – they lose.

“I made all the decisions. I just dictated and got people to do what they were supposed to do. My whole feeling is, because of the way I was raised, if you take care of somebody and you treat them the right way, then they’re going to be honourable and do the right thing. And that’s what I got out of the Chinese culture. But people don’t see it that way. As far as American people, I’d say.”

FBI agent Scott O’Donnell said he’d “never seen” a white guy in the Chinese Mafia before Willis. The federal investigation into Willis’ drug dealing affairs resulted in the seizure of a 38-foot speed boat, 13 firearms, over \$480,000 in cash, approximately 12,000 oxycodone pills, and numerous luxury vehicles. Willis was also into illegal gambling and prostitution operations, as well as loan sharking and extortion activities. The feds were doing stings on Asian warehouses in Boston when Willis showed up on surveillance. The feds abandoned their stings and Willis became their focus.

“Mr Willis and his associates are an example of the opportunistic nature of organised crime groups, whose members share a common bond of victimising their communities through drug dealing, illegal gambling, extortion and exploitation of women in their quest for illegal profits,” said Vincent Lisi, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI’s Boston Division. “The methodical nature and duration of this investigation reflect the focus of the Boston Organised Crime Task Force to secure justice for the victims and to make the community safer.”

Bac Guai’s journey started in Dorchester and ended in federal prison, but he makes no excuses. “They see an American that is involved in this culture that nobody’s involved in,” Willis explains to *Penthouse*. “There’s unanswered murders, different things. Nobody wants to talk to them. They hear about these guns. My name comes up. They come see me and I tell them I don’t know what they’re talking about. They feel that’s a slap in the face. That’s how this all started. From the amounts of money they seize from people, there should be no budget, no deficit, no nothing.

“Whatever the feds write about me, that’s their interpretation. I’m a person who’s about his people, about the culture he grew into and that’s why I feel that my story is not just a gangster story, it’s a story of survival, it’s a story of camaraderie. It’s not a drug dealer story – it’s the story of a way of life, an organisation. I don’t think white people anywhere in Asian culture are accepted the way I was

or am. I’m grateful for that.”

In 2013, the court convicted Willis on federal drug and money laundering charges. He pleaded guilty out of love and loyalty to his girlfriend, so that the feds wouldn’t make her life any harder. He also agreed to forfeit two million dollars and several vehicles, boats and pieces of real estate as part of his plea deal. He was sentenced to 20 years and is now serving his time at Federal Correctional Institution Danbury, a low-security prison in Connecticut.

“Twenty years in federal prison is well-deserved for Mr Willis, a career criminal and the mastermind behind this organisation,” said U.S. Attorney Carmen M. Ortiz. “Not only did this investigation expose a world of illegal gambling, prostitution and extortion, but also revealed a significant oxycodone distribution operation. This case significantly disrupted the flow of this highly addictive, dangerous heroin substitute which has been responsible for numerous deaths in Massachusetts.”

Bac Guai takes his incarceration in stride. He’s been in situations where people were murdered. Situations where rival gangsters pointed guns at him, ready to kill him, only to have them jam. Willis was involved in Chinese culture for so long that he considers himself Chinese. “All these things are part of the story, the struggle, the acceptance, the way of life,” he says. “Do I look at

myself as white? Yeah, I’m white, my DNA says I’m Caucasian. But, at the end of the day, my wife’s Vietnamese, my daughter’s mixed.

“I’m never going to walk away from my people. They took care of me. That’s a vow you make: you never walk away from the people that took care of you and care about you. Always honour your people. Honour your friends, your family. Respect and give loyalty to your brothers that haven’t written you off. I’m not gonna change, not in that aspect.” As he sits in his prison cell, doing hard-time in the federal penitentiary, Willis reflects on his life, who he is and what he’s done, and surprisingly, he’s ok with it.

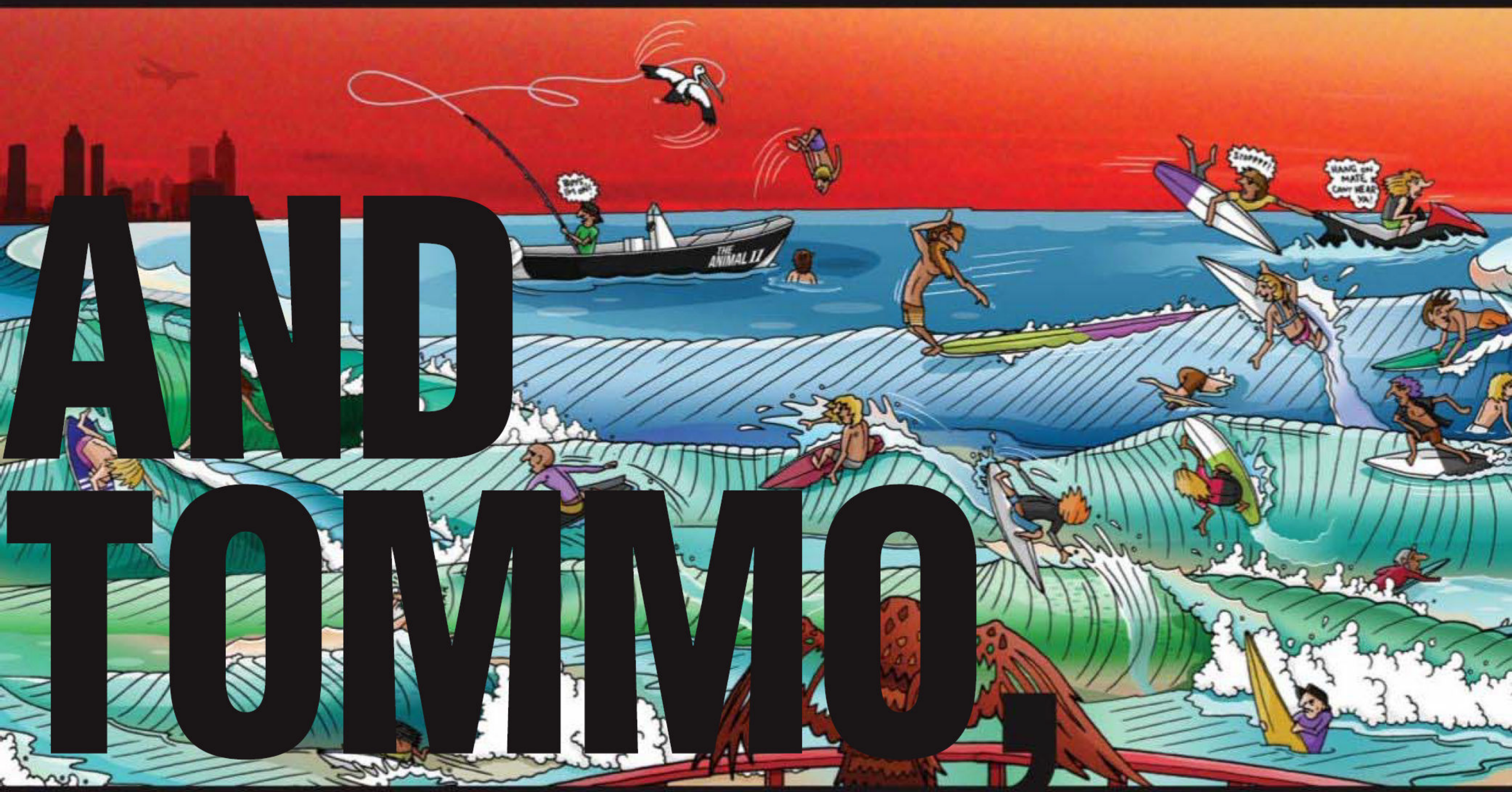
“This part of my life is more about the pain, the struggle that we all go through,” he tells *Penthouse*. “People think it’s fun and games, and this is what you learnt, and this is what you did, and this is who you are. Survival is what we do every day. They’ve taken my freedom already. The things that scare me are the time away from my family. ‘Cause time doesn’t stop. Sure, I’m an American, but now I just say to people, inside I’m white, but outside, I’m Chinese.”

Boston-based entertainment lawyer and literary manager, Matthew Valentinas, who represents John Willis, tells *Penthouse* that Sony Pictures International Television and 3 Arts Entertainment by KV Media Inc. optioned *White Devil*, a book by Bob Halloran, based on Willis’ life, for a potential television series. Robert Kamen (*Taken*, *The Karate Kid*) is writing the script.

Valentinas states, “John’s story is perfect for the screen. His personal character combined with his amazing life experience is something that’s never been seen before in the gangster genre. His story is very relatable and has wide international appeal. We’ve received a lot of interest from Canada, China, Italy, Germany and India. It’s only a matter of time before the entire world is very familiar with the story of the White Devil.”

‘
**THESE PEOPLE DIDN'T
LOOK AT ME LIKE 'HEY,
HE'S A WHITE GUY, THEY
LOOKED AT ME AS 'HEY
THAT'S JOHN. HE'S FROM
BOSTON. HE'S
OUR PEOPLE'**
,

WHERE'S
WALLY...



AND

TOMMO,

MICK
& JOHNNY



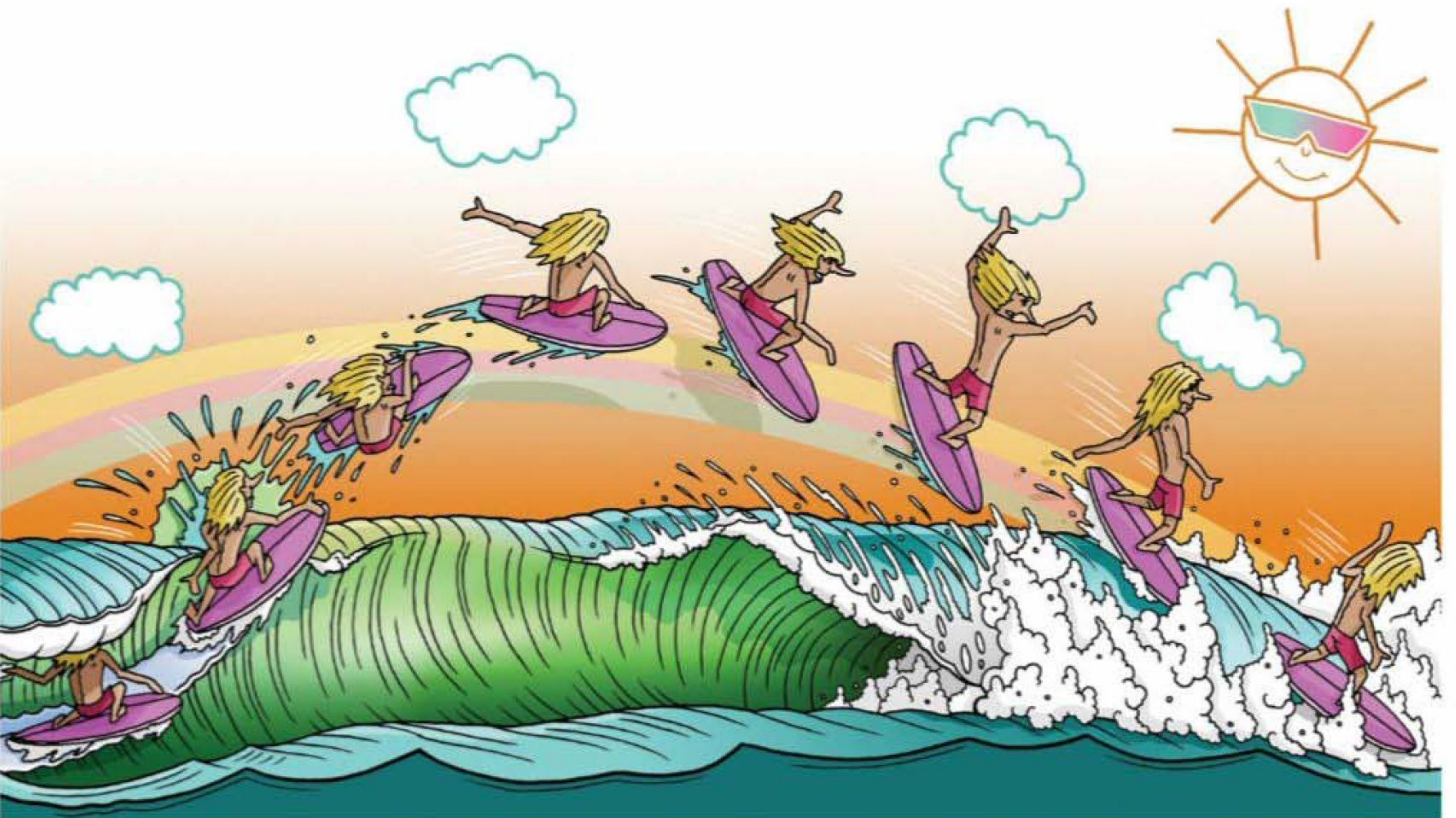
MITCH REVS

GROWING up on Where's Wally books, I always loved how much detail went into the artworks. It completely blew my brain. I thought: "Surely these pieces would take years to create". What kind of person would have the patience to draw this shit? I had to give it a shot.

Most of my inspiration comes from the ocean and particular events over time. There is something about these quirky caricatures that completely divert my mind to a fantasy land. I find myself scribbling the most ridiculous ideas; I have no idea what part of my brain they come from. I do my part to place them in weird adventures, crammed full of personality, colour and humour.

Credit: Mitch Revs/Mitchrevs.com



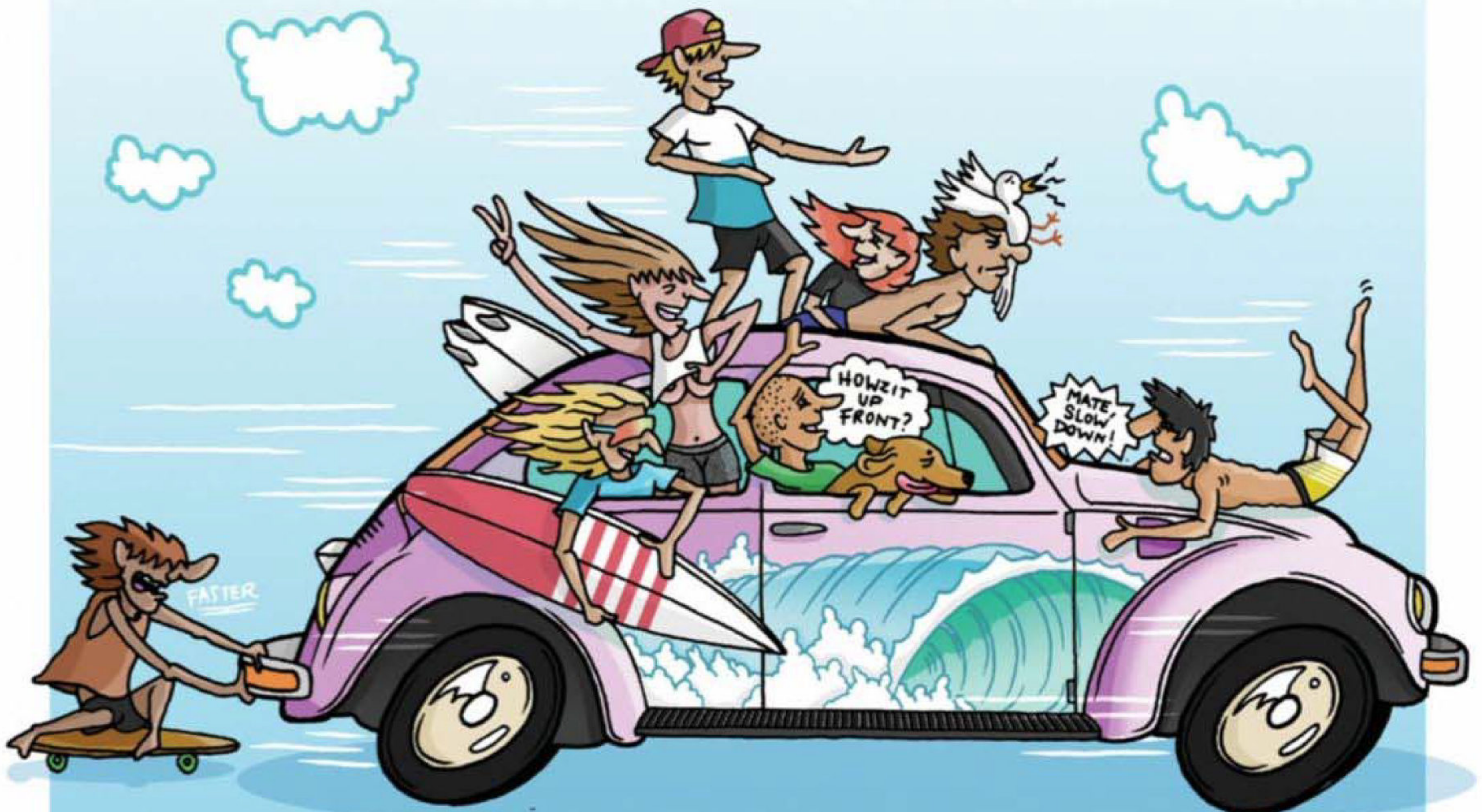








Road trip, Smile, Travel, Laugh, Cry,
Get high, Sing Songs, Make LOVE, Say Yes, Kiss & Cuddle
Spend your Money, Make Mistakes, Take a chance,
Follow your heart ♥ FREE the Mind, Leave the Bullshit!
GET groovy, Dress up, GIVE Compliments, talk more,
create, don't Judge, PARTY (A little)
Be the first to say sorry, Don't worry, Everything will be
OK in the end, you NEVER KNOW what is around the bend,
Take photos..... Lots, Drink water, See the World
(LEAD, don't follow) It's never too late, Look at the clouds,
What do you see? Make a wish, Forgive ~~forget~~
Have the best time ever!!!



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BLONDE ON BLUE

It was a breezy autumn morning when Paige and I headed down to Swanbourne Beach. A long strip of soft sanded coastline that has the notorious reputation of attracting those wanting to bare all for a quick dip of freedom. Things got interesting when we both got in the water for some specific shots I wanted to achieve. The swell just wasn't agreeing with us, with a few barrels threatening the equipment and our dignity. With the sun moving away from that lush golden hour and realising that both photographer and model were now both covered in salt, sand and water, it was time to wrap it up. An overall fantastic shoot which produced even better results. Love working with this girl.

Photography: Kelton Critchett Model: Paige Marie Evans















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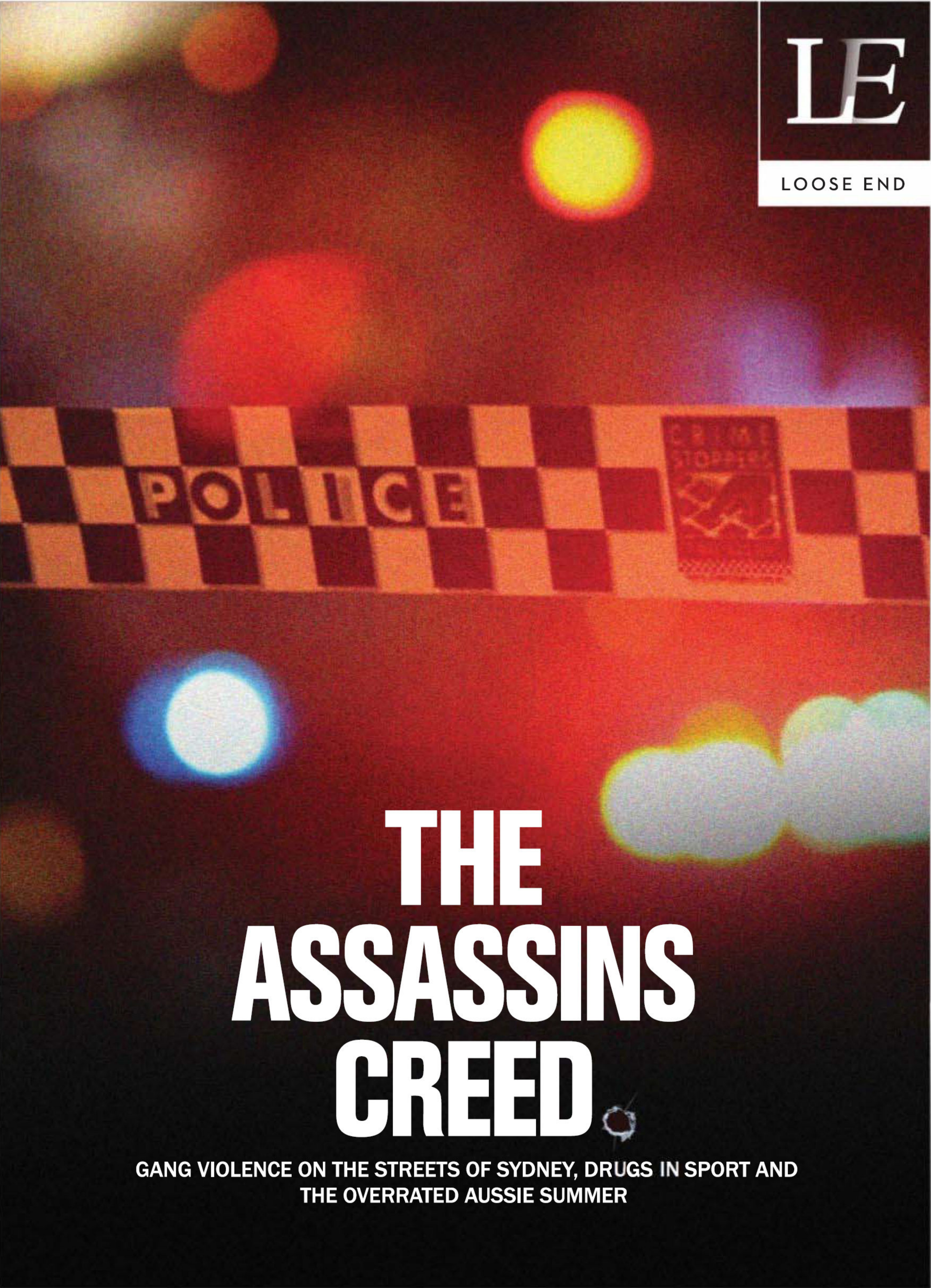
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LOOSE END

THE ASSASSINS CREED

GANG VIOLENCE ON THE STREETS OF SYDNEY, DRUGS IN SPORT AND
THE OVERRATED AUSSIE SUMMER



COLUMN

THE ASSASSINS CREED

CHARLES WATERSTREET,
BARRISTER, WRITER, RAKE.



THE bullets were massaged by the barrel before they exploded like missiles into the soon-to-be dead body of Mohammed Alahmad, as he opened the driver's door of his humble BMW, on his way to work, ironically as a security guard. One bullet entered his anus like a funnel, whether by design or fate, it came to rest just short of his tunnel of love. Alahmad's crime had been to marry a woman who had a fling with a tow-yard boss, Nasser Kalache, who resented her returning home after the affair. On Sydney's South-West streets the best defence to the false sense of security is to move out.

The only upside of gang wars is that shootings in the South-West usually involve criminals shooting criminals, eating their own in squabbles over territory, dignity and cash. Bystanders are either collateral or presumed guilty, and death by debt is the largest cause of fatalities for male youths between 19 and 35.

A relatively young fastboy, Hamad Assaad, known as "H" was my client. H and another Kalache employee faced

a jury in 2010 and were acquitted, perhaps leading to the sense of invincibility that led him to tattoo the Assassins Creed on his chest like an advertising billboard, "The souls that I have taken will never haunt me...only the ones I haven't will..." And so it was, six years later while under police surveillance, two hit-men hit H in front of his startled young nephew as he headed to his sports car. If these killings keep up, the road toll will be matched by the off-road toll. H had come to believe he was a capital H, suspected of taking out Wally Ahmad, kingpin among the haystack of pretenders, as he drank coffee at Westfield's Bankstown. A burst of other shootings involving names of notorious families, Ibrahim and Barbaro, both of whom survived, led to whispers of H being a careless hit-and-miss-man, and a reckless thief who stole ice from the Chinese. Triad tattoos are much more subtle than the store-bought Sydney suburban pop up tat parlour. Triad insignia is only on the back where they watch out for the man in front.



**THE ONLY UPSIDE OF
GANG WARS IS THAT
SHOOTINGS IN THE
SOUTH-WEST
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SQUABBLES OVER
TERRITORY, DIGNITY
AND CASH**

I didn't see H again until a few weeks before his death, bouncing down the stairs of Riley St Garage, clad in white to his back teeth, a blonde on each arm. As I was about to enter I heard, "Charlie, Charlie, it's me H". I didn't recognise him, his black hairline ending with a tiny kiss-curl on the right, "this man saved me life". He meant it, I was chuffed, praise is rare in criminal law. He skidded off in a white sports car, without a roof, like presidents before JFK.

Do criminal lawyers have a conscience? The only answer is that it would be an inconvenience to effective practice. Would Wally be alive if I hadn't fought so hard for an acquittal? Would Ibrahim and Barbaro not walk so gingerly if I hadn't discredited the eyewitnesses? After I wrote this sentence, Pasquale Barbaro was killed in Earlwood. The law is both a sword and a shield. Like the states hangmen of the last century, I was only doing my job. Do I lose sleep? My life long insomnia began after the midwife slapped my wet bottom startling me into breath and I never saw her again. ❶



WEIRD HISTORY

THE BAY AREA EMPEROR

IF YOU THINK POLITICS ARE WEIRD NOW, JUST REMEMBER THAT NOT TOO LONG AGO IN SAN FRANCISCO, A HOMELESS MAN DECLARED HIMSELF THE EMPEROR OF THE UNITED STATES. **BY SEAN BRUCE**

THE Presidential Election is finally over, and you're no doubt trying to forget about it. Unfortunately, it's going to be difficult since we're stuck with that decision for the next four years, at least. Also, we're pretty sure Ted Cruz is already gearing up to start his 2020 presidential bid... so there's that to look forward to...and as satirist and long-time political pundit P. J. O'Rourke says: Don't vote—it will only encourage the bastards. But let's remember, crazy politicians are nothing new.

One of the strangest stories comes out of San Francisco, and concerns the very first and last Emperor of the United States. Emperor Norton was incredibly well-liked and was considered somewhat of a local treasure by his fellow citizens, who indulged his delusions by bowing to him during his “royal” walks.

The story began on September 17, 1859, when Joshua A. Norton, a former businessman who squandered his small

“subjects,” who went out of their way to entertain his fantasy. As his popularity grew, souvenir photos and dolls popped up in stores around the city. Local restaurants would often allow him to skip out on his bill in exchange for a stamped royal decree bearing his seal. Taxis and ferries also charged him no fee, transporting him wherever his royal whim desired. A local printing shop went so far as to print the mad monarch his own currency, emblazoned with his image and royal seal.

On one occasion, a local law enforcement official made the grave mistake of arresting the Emperor for vagrancy. A public outcry ensued, with one local writer standing up for the incarcerated monarch: “Since he has worn the Imperial purple [he] has shed no blood, robbed nobody, and despoiled the country of no one, which is more than can be said for his fellows in that line.” Upon release, no police officer committed such a serious error ever again, making certain to salute their monarch whenever they saw him.

AS THE UNITED STATES DREW CLOSER TO CIVIL WAR, HE DISSOLVED THE UNION AND DECLARED AN ABSOLUTE MONARCHY, WITH HIMSELF AS ITS SOVEREIGN

fortune on a risky commercial venture, posted an unusual letter to the *San Francisco Bulletin*, declaring himself Emperor of the United States and Protector of Mexico. The letter was published by the editors as a joke, but over the next 20 years, Emperor Norton would become one of the most recognised characters in the Bay Area.

Wearing an epaulette-adorned Navy coat, a cap with an ostrich feather, and wielding an old Army sabre, Emperor Norton issued a number of imperial decrees during his reign, which local newsmen eagerly published. His first motion was to dissolve Congress (which, looking at the current state of political affairs, might not have been so crazy after all). When Congress had the nerve to continue meeting, Norton ordered General Winfield Scott to march on the Capital and detain its legislators. The following year, as the United States drew closer to civil war, he dissolved the Union and declared an absolute monarchy, with himself as its sovereign.

His endearing kookiness won him the adulation of his

As testament to his enduring popularity, Emperor Norton inspired Mark Twain, who worked as a journalist in the area, to create the character of the kooky “King,” a royal imposter, who appears in *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.

On January 8, 1880, Norton I, Emperor of the United States and protector of Mexico, died suddenly from a stroke while walking among his people. Newspapers around the country lamented his death. LEROIESTMORT (“THE KING IS DEAD”) read the morning headline in the *San Francisco Chronicle*. As evidence of his reputation among Bay Area residents, Norton I's funeral was attended by more than 10,000 loyal subjects who came to mourn the passing of their beloved emperor.

And although most of his royal mandates were ridiculous, one stands out. In the early 1870s, Norton announced with great prescience that the city was to fund and construct a bridge between San Francisco and Oakland. Ignored at the time, Norton I's decree eventually became reality in 1936 with the opening of the majestic Bay Bridge. ❶

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COLUMN

DRUG SPORTS LEAGUE

WELCOME TO THE DRUG SPORTS LEAGUE, WHERE HIGH-JUMP TAKES ON A WHOLE NEW MEANING AND THE NEED FOR SPEED IS REAL

IT'S time to legalise drugs in sports – no, I'm not blowing smoke.

As a society, what are the things we love most? I'd say, consistently: Blood, sport, killing, drugs and sex. Now, imagine if we put all of those things in a cage, (minus the sex), in the form of jacked-up, elite athletes and had them compete. It would be like the UFC on steroids. Hang on a second...

And that's the point – most of these guys are on juice already – the biggest competition in modern sports is taking drugs like you're Charlie Sheen but still pissing as if you've just come back from youth choir. At the rate top athletes are getting busted, we may as well stop wasting money on testing and just let them do it.

Anyway, drugs don't make athletes – training, talent and endless dedication make an athlete. No matter how many steroids you pump into your system, step into the cage with a trained fighter and you will get your ass handed to you.

"But drugs are bad, and they pose a health risk..." Oh, so you're okay with the NRL's bone-crunching tackles,

and the brutality of exchanging barely covered knuckles in the MMA, but when it comes to steroid use, it's dangerous?

Besides, after all, we are talking about the business of entertaining the masses, are we not? A huge part of watching sports is witnessing the very peak of human athletic ability, and legalising performance enhancing drugs would help athletes climb even higher.

Everybody wins.

Not only do we let our athletes exercise their sovereign right to put shit in their body, but it'll also be fucking awesome to watch. Think about it: Herculean proportioned warriors fighting to rip one another's heads off. No more split decisions or TKO's – it'd be death by fatality. Fuck, I'd pay to see that.

Instead of spending money on pointless drug testing, we'll be spending money on the best drugs can buy, creating super athletes. It's the way of the future – you know it, I know it, Lance Armstrong knew it, and the bloke only had one testicle. So let's bring on the Drug Olympics and see what we're made of. **1**

A photograph of a woman's back and shoulders, seen from behind. She has dark, wavy hair and is wearing a black lace bikini bottom. The background is a clear blue sky. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

COLUMN

SUMMER LOVING

DO AUSSIES REALLY LOVE SUMMER, OR IS IT JUST THE IDEA THAT GETS US HOT?

SUMMER. Three glorious months straddling the end of year break in which Australians come alive. Thanks largely to Huges and his feature-length crocodilian tourism campaign, our summers are globally considered the holy grail of heat. We do that sh!t like the Ruskies do vodka. Like Swifty does fresh meat. Like Kanye does irrelevant. A bacchanal of BBQ's, broads, beers, bikinis, barra, boards and boardies.

But do we really love it? Or do we simply love the idea of it? Like cougars. Having kids. And fisherman pants. In the dead of winter, we look wistfully at the malnourished sun and yearn for the heat like a footballer for a brawl. Hell, even in the first few weeks of December we're all about that bake. But by Christmas, our sunny outlook has grown overcast. Complaints run rife that the roads have turned to molasses and we have to carry a spare shirt in case we...y'know...move. Or breathe. Or walk. And that's just the southern states.

As the weeks roll on, so do the beads of sweat down our backs and the gripes off our tongues. Brows wiped by forearms. Clinging shirts. Sticky skin. It's a Goddamn VB commercial. But this is what we wanted, right? Or did we? Maybe we just liked the idea of it.

But it's not all bad. Soon those days turns into weeks and by March those weeks have turned into a slight chill in the morning air. And our smiles resurface. No more spare shirts. No more liquid roads.

That is until the stiff winter breezes roll through like Allied tanks into Berlin. And for nine or so months we'll walk sullenly down grey streets and alleyways, staring wistfully through fences at our once bright parks and beaches. Until those early December days when we notice the first drops of sweat upon our brow...

...and grin and murmur with excitement...

...Summer's back... ❶



OPEN LETTER

DEAR SMUGGLERS OF THE BUDGIE

I didn't come down to the beach to see what you fed your wife last night for dessert, and neither did the kids.

I know you're 65 and ceased to care after your third wife left, but fair shake of the sauce bottle, we're here to enjoy the beach, not your...fun sack.

Like SPF and sunnies, geriatric "leather jackets" rocking Speedos, are one with the beach landscape; symbolic of the seaside freedoms we all love to enjoy.

And fair go. But when I envisioned people playing with beach balls, I didn't imagine you, from the corner of my eye, tucking your bronze, aged scrotum back into your nut huggers. But that's what I've got.

It's a mixed bag, though (and I'm not talking about the barely concealed bag between your legs). I'm not sure if I should defer to you as the rightful King of the Coast – a crusty leather symbol of Australian culture – or warn small children that you're nearby.

Historically the beach is a place where people strip down and let it all hang out – and I'm all in support of that. It's just that there's good exposure (like a beautiful blonde in a bikini) and bad exposure – and yours makes me want to give budgie smugglers the sack.

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